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869



THE HISTORIE

O F

Henry the Fourth.

With the Battell at *Shrewseburie*, betweene
the King, and Lord *Henry Percy*, surnamed
Henry Hotspur of the North.

With the humorous conceits of Sir
Iohn Falstaffe.

Newly corrected.

By *William Shake-speare*.



LONDON,

Printed by T. P. and are to be sold by *Mathew Law*, dwelling
in *Pauls Church-yard*, at the Signe of the *Foxe*, neere
S. Austines gate, 1623.

MISS LOUISE

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May, 1873



The Historie of *Henry the Fourth.*

Enter the King, Lord *John of Lancaster*, Earle of
Westmerland, with others.

King.

SO shaken as we are, so wan with care,
Find we a time for frightened Peace to pant,
And breath short winded accents of new broiles,
To be commen'ct in stronds a farre remote:
No mote the thirstie entrance of this soile,
Shall daube her lips with her owne childrens blood:
No more shall trenching Warre chanell her fields,
Nor bruise her flowers with the armed hooves
Of hostile paces: those opposed eyes,
Which like the Meteors of a troubled heauen,
All of one nature, of one substance bred,
Did lately meete in the intestine shooke,
And furious close of ciuill butcherie,
Shall now in mutuall well-beseeming rankes,
March all one way, and be no more oppos'd
Against acquaintance, kindred and allies.
The edge of Warre, like an ill-sheathed Knife,
No more shall cut his Master: therefore friends,
As farre as to the Sepulchre of Christ,
Whose souldier now vnder whose blessed Crosse
We are impressed and ingag'd to fight,
Forthwith a power of *English* shall we leuie,
Whose armes were moulded in their mothers wombs,
To chase these *Pagans* in those holy fields,
Ouer whose acres walkt those blessed feete,

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Which 1400. yeares agoe were nailde,
For our aduantage on the bitter Crosse:
But this our purpose istwelue month old,
And bootles tis to tell you we will goe.
Therefore we meet not now: then let me heare
Of you my gentle Coosen *Westmerland*,
What yesternight our Counsell did decree,
In forwarding this deere expedience.

West. My Liege, this haste was hot in question,
And many limits of the charge set downe
But yesternight, when all athwart there came
A Post from *Wales*; loaden with heauie newes;
Whose worst was, that the noble *Mortimer*,
Leading the men of *Herefordshire* to fight
Against the irregular and wilde *Glendower*,
Was by the rude hands of that Welchman taken,
A thousand of his people butchered:
Vpon whose dead corps there was such misuse,
Such beastly shameles transformation
By those Welch-women done, as may not be
Without much shame, retold or spoken of.

King. It seemes then that the tidings of this broile,
Brake off our busines for the Holy-land.

West. This matcht with other like my Gracious Lord,
Far more vneuen and vnwelcome newes,
Came from the North, and thus it did report:
On Holy-roode day, the gallant *Hotspur* there
Yong *Harry Percie*, and braue *Archibald*,
That euer valiant and approoued *Scot*,
At *Holmedon* met, where they did spend
A sad and bloody houre:
As by discharge of their Artillarie,
And shape of likelihood the newes was told:
For he that brought them, in the very heate
And pride of their contention, did take Horse,
Vncertaine of the issue any way.

King. Here is a deare, and true industrious friend,
Sir Walter Blunt, new lighted from his Horse,

Stainde

Henry the Fourth.

Staindewith the variation of each soyle,
Betwixt that *Holmedon*, and this seat of ours;
And he hath brought vs smooth and welcome newes,
The Earle of *Douglas* is discomfited,
Ten thousand bold *Scots*, two and twenty Knights
Balkt in their owne blood did sir *Walter* see
On *Holmedon* plaine: of prisoners *Hotspur* tooke
Mordake Earle of *Fife*, and eldest sonne
To beaten *Douglas*, and the Earle of *Atholl*,
Of *Murrey*, *Angus*, and *Menteith*:
And is not this an honorable spoyle?

A gallant prize? Ha, Coosen is it not? In faith it is.

West. A Conquest for a Prince to boast of.

King. Yea, there thou mak'st me sad, and mak'st me sinne:
In enuy, that my Lord *Northumberland*,
Should be the Father of so blest a Sonne,
A Sonne, who is the Theame of Honors tong,
Amongst a Groue, the very straightest Plant,
Who is sweet Fortunes Minion, and her pride,
Whilst I by looking on the praise of him,
See Ryot and dishonour staine the brow
Of my yong *Harry*. O that it could be prou'd
That some night-tripping *Fairy* had exchang'd
In Cradle clothes, our children where they lay,
And cal'd mine *Percy*, his *Plantagenet*,
Then would I haue his *Harry*, and he mine,
But let him from my thoughts: What thinke you *Coose*,
Of this yong *Percies* pride? The Prisoners,
Which he in this aduenture hath surprisde,
To his owne vse he keepes, and sends me word,
I shall haue none but *Mordake* Earle of *Fife*.

West. This is his Vnckles teaching, This is *Worcester*,
Maleuolent to you in all aspects:
Which makes him prune himselfe, and bristle vp
The crest of Youth against your dignitie.

King. But I haue sent for him to answer this:
And for this cause a while we must neglect
Our holy purpose to *Ierusalem*.

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Coosen, on Wednesday next, our Counsell we will hold
At *Winsor*, so informe the Lords :

But come your selfe with speed to vs againe,
For more is to be said, and to be done,
Then out of anger can be vttered.

West. I will my Liege.

Exeunt.

Enter Prince of Wales, and sir Iohn Falstaffe.

Fal. Now *Hall*, what time of day is it lad ?

Prince. Thou art so fat-witted with drinking of old Sacke,
and vnbuttoning thee after supper, & sleeping vpon Benches
after noone, that thou hast forgotten to demand that truly,
which thou wouldest truly know. What a deuill hast thou to
doe with the time of the day ? Vnlesse houres were cups of
Sacke, and minuts Capons, & Clocks the tongues of Bauds,
and Dialls the signes of Leaping houses, and the blessed Sun
himselfe a faire hot Wench in flame coulored Taffata ; I see
no reason why thou shouldest bee superfluous to demand the
time of the day.

Fals. Indeed you come neere me now *Hall*, for we that take
Purses, goe by the Moone and seuen starres, and not by *Phœ-*
büs, he, that wandring Knight so faire : and I prethee sweete
wagge, when thou art King, as God saue thy Grace ; Maiesty
I should say, for Grace thou wilt haue none.

Prince. What none ?

Fals. No by my troth, not so much as will serue to be pro-
logue to an Egge and Butter.

Prince. Well, how, then ? come roundly, roundly.

Fals. Marry then, sweet wag, when thou art King, let not vs
that are Squires of the nights body, be called Theeues of the
dayes beauty : let vs be *Dianæs* Forresters, Gentlemen of the
shade, minions of the Moone ; and let men say, we be men of
good gouernment, being gouerned as the sea is, by our noble
and chaste Mistris the Moone ; vnder whose countenance we
steale.

Prince. Thou sayest well, and it holdes well too, for the for-
tune of vs that are the Moones men, doth ebbe, and flow like
the Sea, being gouerned as the Sea is by the Moone ; as for
proofe

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prooffe. Now a purse of gold most resolutely snatcht on Monday night, and most dissolutely spent on Tuesday morning; got with swearing lay by, and spent with crying bring in: now in as low an ebbe as the foote of the Ladder, and by and by in as high a flow as the ridge of the Gallows.

Fals. By the Lord thou sayest true lad: and is not my Hostesse of the Tauerne a most sweet wench?

Prince. As the hony of *Hibla*, my old lad of the Castle, and is not a Buffe Ierkin a most sweet robe of durance?

Fals. How now, how now mad wagge, what in thy quips and thy quiddities? What a plague haue I to do with a Buffe Ierkin?

Prince. Why, what a poxe haue I to doe with my Hostesse of the Tauerne?

Fals. Well, thou hast cal'd her to a reckoning many a time and oft.

Prince. Did I euer call for thee to pay thy part?

Fals. No, Ile giue thee thy due, thou hast payd all there.

Prin. Yea and else where, so far as my coyne would stretch; and where it would not, I haue vsde my credit.

Fals. Yea, and so vsde it, that were it not heere apparant that thou art Heire apparant. But I prethee sweet wag, shall there be Gallows standing in *England*, when thou art King? & resolution thus subd as it is with the rusty curb of old father antick the Law: do not thou whē thou art a king hang a theefe.

Prince. No, thou shalt.

Fals. Shall I? O rare! by the Lord Ile be a braue Iudge.

Princ. Thou iudgest false already. I meane thou shalt haue the hanging of the Theeues, and so become a rare Hangman.

Fals. Well *Hall*, well, and in some sort it iumpes with my humor, as well as waiting in the Court, I can tell you.

Prince. For obtaining of sutes?

Fals. Yea, for obtaining of sutes, whereof the Hangman hath no leane Wardrop, Zblood I am as melancholy as a gyb Cat, or a lugd-Beare.

Prince. Or an old Lion, or a Louers Lute.

Fals. Yea, or the Drone of a *Lincolnesbire* Bagpipe,

Princ. What sayest thou to a Hare, or the melancholy of

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Moore-ditch?

Fals. Thou hast the most vnflauory smiles, and art indeede the most comparatiue rascaldest sweet yong Prince. But *Hall*, I prethe trouble me no more with vanity, I would to God thou and I knew where a commodity of good names were to be bought: an old Lord of the Counsell rated mee the other day in the streete about you sir; but I markt him not, and yet he talkt very wisely; but I regarded him not, and yet he talkt wisely, in the street too.

Prince. Thou didst well: for Wisedome cries out in the streets, and no man regards it.

Fals. O, thou hast damnable iteration, and art indeed able to corrupt a Saint: thou hast done much harme vnto me *Hal*, God forgie thee for it: Before I knew thee *Hall*, I knew nothing, and now am I, If a man should speake truely, little better than one of the wicked: I must giue ouer this life, and I will giue it ouer: By the Lord and I doe not, I am a villaine: Ile be damned for neuer a Kings sonne in Chistendome?

Prince. Where shall we take a purse to morrow, *Iacke*?

Fals. Zounds, where thou wilt lad, Ile make one: and I do not, call me villaine, and Baffell me.

Prince. I see a good amendment of life in thee; from praying, to Purse taking.

Fals. Why, *Hall*; tis my vocation *Hall*: tis no sin for a man to labour in his vocation.

Enter Poynes.

Poynes. Now shall we know if Gads hill haue set a match: O, if men were to bee saued by merit, what hole in Hell were hot enough for him? This is the most omnipotent Villaine that euer cryed, Stand, to a true man.

Prince. Good morrow *Ned*.

Poynes. Good morrow, sweete *Hall*. What sayes *Mounsieur Remorse*? What sayes sir *Iohn Sacke* and *Sugar*, *Iacke*? How agrees the Diuell and thee about thy soule, that thou soldst him on Good-friday last, for a cup of Madera and a cold Capons legge?

Prin. Sir *Iohn* stands to his word, the Diuell shall haue his bargaine, for he was neuer a breaker of Prouerbes: hee will giue the Diuell his due.

Poynes.

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Poines. Then art thou damn'd for keeping thy word with the diuell.

Prince. Else he had been damn'd for Cosening the diuell.

Poy. But my lads, my lads, to morrow morning, by foure a clocke early at *Gads-hill*, there are pilgrims going to *Canterbury* with rich offrings, and Traders riding to *London* with fat purses. I haue vizards for you all; you haue horses for your selues: *Gads-hill* lies to night in *Rocheſter*, I haue bespoke supper to morrow night in *Eastcheape*; we may do it as secure as sleepe: if you will goe, I will stufte your pursesful of crownes; if you wil not, tarry at home and be hang'd.

Fals. Heare ye Yedward, if I tarry at home and go not, Ile hang you for going.

Poy. You will chops.

Fals. *Hal*, wilt thou make one?

Prince. Who, I rob? I a theefe? not I by my faith.

Fals. Ther's neither honesty, manhood, nor good fellowship in thee, nor thou camst not of the blood royall, if thou darest not stand for ten shillings.

Prince. Well, then once in my daies Ile be a madcap.

Fals. Why, thats well said.

Prince. Well, come what will, Ile tarry at home.

Fals. By the Lord jle be a traitor then, when thou art King.

Prince. I care not.

Poin. Sir *Iohn*, I prethee leaue the Prince & me alone, I will lay him down such reasons for this aduventure, that he shal go.

Fals. Wel, God giue thee the spirit of perswasion, & him the cares of profiting, that what thou speakest may moue, & what he heares may be beleeued, that the Prince, may (for recreation sake) proue a false theef; for the poore abuses of the time want countenance: farewell, you shal find me in *Eastcheape*.

Pri. Farewel the latter spring, farewell Alhollown summer.

Poy. Now my good sweet hony Lord, ride with vs to morrow. I haue a ieast to execute, that I cannot mannage alone.

Falstaffe, Haruey, Rossill, and *Gads-hill*, shal rob those men that we haue already way-laid; your selfe and I, will not be there: and when they haue the booty, if you and I do not rob them, cut this head from my shoulders.

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Princ. How shall we part with them in setting forth?

Po. Why, we will set forth before or after them, and appoint them a place of meeting, wherein it is at our pleasure to faile; & then will they aduenture vpon the exploit themselves, which they shall haue no sooner atchieued, but weele set vpon the.

Prin. Yea, but tis like that they will know vs by our horses, by our habits, and by euery other appointment, to be our selues.

Po. Tut, our horses they shal not see, I'll tie the in the wood, our vizard we wil change, after we leaue them: & sirra, I haue cases of buckorum for the nonce, to immaske out noted outward garments.

Prin. Yea, but I doubt they will be too hard for vs.

Po. Wel, for two of them I know to be as true bred cowards as euer turnd back: and for the third, if he fight longer then he sees reason, Ile forswear armes. The vertue of this iest will be, the incomprehensible lies that this fat rogue will tell vs when we meete at supper, how thirty at least he fought with, what wards, what blowes, what extremities he indured, and in the reproofe of these lies the iest.

Princ. Wel, Ile goe with thee, prouide vs al things necessary, and meete me to morrow night in Eastcheape, there I'll suppe farewell.

Poy. Farewell my Lord. *Exit Poynes.*

Prince. I know you all, and will a while vphold
The vnyokt humor of your idlenesse
Yet heerein will I immitate the Sunne,
Who doth permit the base contagious clouds
To smother vp his beauty from the world,
That when he please againe to be himselfe,
Being wanted, he may be more wonderd at
By breaking through the foule and vgly mists
Of vapours that did seeme to strangle him.
If all the yeare were playing holy daies,
To sport would be as tedious as to worke,
But when they seldome come, they wisht for come,
And nothing pleaseth but rare accidents:
So when this loose behauiour I throw off,
And pay the debt I neuer promised,

By

Henry the Fourth.

By how much better then my word I am,
By so much shall I falsifie mens hopes,
And like bright mettall on a sullin ground,
My reformation glittering o're my fault,
Shall shew more goodly, and attract more eyes,
Then that which hath no soile to set it off.
He so offend, to make offence a skill,
Redeeming time, when men thinke least I will. *Exit.*

Enter the King, Northumberland, Worcester, Hotspur,

Sir Walter Blunt, with others.

King. My blood hath beene too cold and temperate;
Vnapt to stirre at these indignities,
And you haue found me; for accordingly,
You tread vpon my patience: but be sure
I will from henceforth rather be my selfe,
Mighty, and to be feard, then my condition
Which hath beene smooth as oyle; soft as yong downe,
And therefore lost that Title of respect,
Which the proud soule ne're payes but to the proud.

Wor. Our house (my soueraigne Liege) little deserues
The scourge of greatnesse to be vsed on it,
And that same greatnesse too, which our owne hands
Haue holpe to make so portly. *Nor.* My Lord.

King. *Worcester* get thee gone, for I do see
Danger and disobedience in thine eye,
O sir your presence is too bold and peremptory,
And Maiestie might neuer yet endure
The moody frontier of a seruants brow,
You haue good leaue to leaue vs: when we need
Your vse and counsell, we shall send for you. *Exit Wor.*
You were about to speake.

North. Yea my good Lord.
Those prisoners in your highnes name demanded,
Which *Harry Percy* here at *Holmedon* tooke,
Where as he sayes, not with such strength denide,
As he deliuered to your Maiestie.
Either enuy therefore, or misprision
Is guilty of this fault, and not my sonne.

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Hot. My Liege, I did deny no prisoners,
But I remember when the fight was done,
When I was drie with rage and extreame toyle,
Breathles and faint, leaning vpon my sword,
Came there a certaine Lord, neat and trimly drest,
Fresh as a Bridegroom, and his chin new reapt,
Shewd like a stubble land at haruest home:
He was perfumed like a Milliner,
And twixt his finger and his thumb he held
A pouncet boze, which euer and anon
He gaue his nose, and tooke away againe,
Who therewith angry, when it next came there,
Tooke it in snuffe, and still he smilde and talkt,
And as the souldiers bore dead bodies by,
He cald them vntaught knaues, vnmanerly,
To bring a slouely vnhand-some coarfe,
Betwixt the wind and his Nobility,
With many holy day and Lady tearmes.
He questioned me: among therest demanded
My prisoners in your Maiesties behalfe.
I then al smarting with my wounds being cold,
To be so pestered with a Poppingay,
Out of my grieve and my impatience,
Answered neglectingly, I know not what,
He should, or he should not, for he made me mad
To see him shine so briske, and smell so sweet,
And talke so like a waiting gentlewoamn,
Of Guns and Drums, and wounds, God saue the marke:
And telling me the soueraignest thing on earth;
Was Parmacity for an inward bruse,
And that it was great pittie, so it was,
This villanous Saltpeter should be dig'd
Out of the bowels of the harmeles Earth;
Which many a good tall fellow had destroy'd
So cowardly: and but for these vile Guns,
He would haue been himselfe a Souldier.
This bald vnioynted chat of his (my Lord)
I answered indirectly (as I said)

And

Henry the Fourth.

And I beseech you, let not this report
Come currant for an accusation
Betwixt my loue, and your high Maiesty.

Blunt. The circumstance considered, good my Lord
What er'e *Harry Piercie* then had said
To such a person, and in such a place,
At such a time, with all the rest retold,
May reasonably die, and neuer rise,
To doe him wrong, or any way impeach
What then he said, so he vn say it now.

King. Why yet he doth deny his prisoners,
But with prouiso and exception,
That we at our owne charge shall ransome straight
His brother in law, the foolish *Mortimer*,
Who in my soule hath wilfully betraide,
The liues of those, that he did lead to fight,
Against the great Magitian, damned *Glendower*,
Whose daughter as we heare, the Earle of *March*,
Hath lately married? shall our coffers then
Be emptied to redeeme a traitor home?
Shall we buy treason? and indent with feares,
When they haue lost and forfeited themselues.
No, on the barren mountaine let him sterue,
For I shall neuer hold that man my friend,
Whose tongue shall aske me for one pennie cost,
To ransome home reuolted *Mortimer*.

Hot. Reuolted *Mortimer*?
He neuer did fall off, my Soueraigne Liege,
But by the chance of warre: to proue that true,
Needs no more but one tongue: for all those wounds,
Those mouthed wounds which valiantly he tooke
When on the gentle *Seuernes* siedgie banke
In single opposition hand to hand,
He did confound the best part of an houre
In changing hardiment with great *Glendower*,
Three times they breath'd, and three times did they drinke,
Vpon agreement of swift *Seuernes* floud
Who then affrighted with their bloody looks,

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Ran fearfully among the trembling reedes,
And hid his crispe-head in the hollow banke,
Blood-stained with these valiant combatans,
Neuer did bare and rotten policy
Colour her working with such deadly wounds,
Nor neuer could the noble *Mortimer*,
Receiue so many, and all willingly:
Then let him not be slandered with revolt.

King. Thou dost bely him *Percy*, thou dost bely him,
He neuer did encounter with *Glendower*,
I tell thee, he durst as well haue met the Diuell alone,
As *Owen Glendower* for an enemy.
Art thou not asham'd? but sirra, henceforth
Let me not heare you speake of *Mortimer*,
Send me your prisoners with the speediest meanes,
Or you shall heare in such a kind from me,
As will displease you. My Lord *Northumberland*,
We licence your departure with your sonne,
Send vs your prisoners, or you will heare of it. *Exit King.*

Hot. And if the diuell come and roare for them,
I will not send them: I will after straight
And tell him so, for I will ease my heart,
Albeit I make a hazard of my head.

Nor. What? drunke with choler? stay and pause a while,
Heere comes your Vnckle.

Hot. Speake of *Mortimer*?
Zounds I wil speake of him, and let my soule
Want mercy if I doe not ioyne with him:
Yea on his part, Ile empty all these veines,
And shed my deare bloud, drop by drop i'th dust,
But I will lift the downe-trod *Mortimer*,
As high in 'th ayre as this vnthankfull King,
As this ingrate and cankred *Bullingbrooke*.

Nor. Brother, the King hath made your Nephew mad.

Wor. Who strooke this heat vp after I was gone?

Hot. He wil forsooth haue all my prisoners,
And when I vrg'd the ransome once againe
Of my wiues brother, then his cheeke lookt pale,

Henry the Fourth.

And on my face he turn'd an eye of death,
Trembling euen at the name of *Mortimer*.

Wor. I cannot blame him, was not he proclaim'd
By *Richard* that dead is, the next of bloud?

Nor. He was; I heard the Proclamation,
And then it was, when the vnhappy King,
(Whose wrongs in vs God pardon) did set forth
Vpon his *Irish* expedition;

From whence he intercepted, did returne
To be depos'd and shortly murdered.

Wor. And for whose death, we in the worlds wide-mouth,
Liue scandaliz'd and foulie spoken off.

Hot. But soft I pray you, did King *Richard* then
Proclaime my brother *Mortimer*,
Heire to the Crowne?

Nor. He did, my selfe did heare it.

Hot. Nay then I cannot blame his coosin King,
That wisht him on the barren mountaines starue,
But shall it be that you that set the Crowne

Vpon the head of this forgetfull man,
And for his sake weare the detested blot

Of murtherous subornation? shall it be
That you a world of curses vndergoe,

Being the agents, or base second meanes,
The cords, the ladder, or the hangman rather?

O pardon if that I descend so low,
To shew the line and the predicament,

Wherein you range vnder this subtile King.
Shall it for shame be spoken in these daies,

Or fill vp Cronicles in time to come,
That men of your nobility and power

Did gage them both in an vniust behalfe,
(As both of you God pardon it haue done)

To put downe *Richard* that sweet louely Rose,
And plant this thorne, this canker *Bullingbrooke*?

And shall it in more shame be further spoken,
That you are fool'd, discarded, and shooke off

By him, for whom these shames ye vnder-went?

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No, yet time serues, wherein you may redeeme
Your banisht honors, and restore your selues,
Into the good thoughts of the world againe:
Reuenge the ieering and disdain'd contempt
Of this proud King, who studies day and night
To answer all the debt he owes to you,
Euen with the bloodie payment of your deaths:
Therefore I say.

Wor. Peace Coosin, say no more.
And now I will vnclaspe a secret booke,
And to your quicke conceiuing discontents
Ile read your matter deepe and dangerous,
As full of perill and aduenterous spirit,
As to or'e walke a Current roring lowd
On the vnsteadfast footing of a speare.

Hot. If he fall in, good night, or sinke or swimde,
Send danger from the East vnto the West,
So honor crosse it from the North to South,
And let them grapple: the blood more stirres
To rowse a Lion, then to start a Hare.

North. Imagination of some great exploit,
Driues him beyond the bounds of patience.

Hot. By heauen! me thinks it were an easie leape,
To plucke bright honor from the pale-fac'd Moone
Or diue into the bottome of the deepe,
Wheref adome-line could neuer touch the ground,
And plucke vp drowned honor by the lockes,
So he that doth redeeme her thence, might weare
Without corriuall, all her dignities:
But out vpon this halfe fac't fellowship.

Wor. He apprehends a world of figures here,
But not the forme of what he should attend,
Good Coosen giue me audience for a while.

Hot. I cry you mercy.

Wor. Those same noble *Scots* that are your prisoners.

Hot. Ile keepe them all.

By God he shall not haue a *Scot* of them,
No, if a *Scot* would saue his soule, he shall not,

Henry the Fourth.

Ile keepe them by this hand.

Wor. You start away,
And lend no care vnto my purposes:
Those Prisoners you shall keepe.

Hot. Nay, I will; that's flat:
He said he would not rancome *Mortimer*,
Forbad my tongue to speake of *Mortimer*:
But I will find him when he lies a sleepe,
And in his eare Ile hallow *Mortimer*:
Nay, Ile haue a Starling shall be taught to speake
Nothing but *Mortimer*, and giue it him,
To keepe his anger still in motion.

Wor. Heare you Coosin, a word.

Hot. All studies heere I solemnly desie,
Saue how to gall and pinch this *Bullingbrooke*,
And that same Sword and Buckler Prince of *Wales*.
But that I thinke his father loues him not,
And would be glad he met with some mischance:
I would haue him poysoned with a pot of *Ale*.

Wor. Farewell Kinsman, Ile talke to you
When you are better tempered to attend.

Nor. Why what a Waspe-tongue and impatient foole
Art thou, to breake into this womans-mood,
Tying thine eare to no tongue but thine owne?

Hot. Why looke you, I am whipt and scourg'd with rods,
Netled, and stung with Pismires, when I heare
Of this vile Polititian *Bullingbrooke*.

In *Richards* time, what doe you call the place,
A plague vpon it, it is in *Glocestershire*;
Twas where the mad-cap Duke his vnckle kept,
His vnckle *Yorke*, where I first bowed my knee
Vnto this King of Smiles, this *Bullingbrooke*:
Zbloud, when you and he came backe from *Rauenpurgh*.

Nor. At *Barkly* Castle.

Hot. You say true,

Why what a candie deale of curtesie,
This fawning Grey-hound then did proffer me,
Looke when his infant Fortune came to age,
And gentle *Harry Percy*, and kind Coosin:

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O, the Diuell take such coofeners, God forgiue me,
Good Vnckle tell your tale, I haue done.

Wor. Nay, if you haue not, to it againe,
We will stay your leifure.

Hot. I haue done yfaith.

Wor. Then once more to your Scottish Prisoners.
Deliuier them vp without their ransome straight,
And make the *Dowglas* sonne your onely meane
For powers in *Scotland*, which for diuers reasons
Which I shall send you written bee assur'd,
Will easily be granted you, my Lord.
Your sonne in *Scotland* being thus imploied,
Shall secretly into the bosome creepe
Of that same noble Prelate, wel-belou'd,
The Archbishop.

Hot. Of *Torke*, is it not?

Wor. True, who beares hard
His brothers death at *Bristow* the Lord *Scroope*.
I speake not this in estimation,
As what I thinke might be, but what I know
Is ruminated, plotted, and set downe,
And onely staies but to behold the face
Of that occasion that shall bring it on.

Hot. I smell it: vpon my life it will doe well.

Nor. Before the game's afoote thou still let'st slip.

Hot. Why, it cannot choose but be a noble plot,
And then the power of *Scotland*, and of *Torke*,
To ioyn with *Mortimer*, ha.

Wor. And so they shall.

Hot. In faith it is exceedingly well aynd.

Wor. And tis no little reason bids vs speed,
To saue our heads, by raising of a Head:
For, beare our selues, as euen as we can,
The King will alwaies thinke him in our debt,
And thinke we thinke our selues vnsatisfied,
Till he hath found a time to pay vs home.
And see already, how he doth begin
To make vs strangers to his lookes of loue.

Hot.

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Hot. He does, he does; weele be reueng'd on him.

Wor. Cousin, farewell. No further goe in this,
Then I by Letters shall direct your course
When time is ripe, which will be suddenly:
Ile steale to *Glendower*, and loe, *Mortimer*,
Where you and *Douglas*, and our powers at once,
As I will fashion it, shall happily meet,
To beare our fortunes in our owne strong armes,
Which now we hold at much vncertaintie.

Nor. Farewell good brother, we shall thrive, I trust.

Hot. Vnckle, adue: O let the houres be short,
Till Fields, & Blowes, & Grones, applaud our sport. *Exeunt.*

Enter a Carrier with a Lanterne in his hand.

1. *Car.* Heigh ho, an it be not foure by the day, jle be hangd,
Charles-waine is ouer the new Chimney, and yet our horse not
packt. What *Ostler*?

Ost. Anon, anon.

1. *Car.* I prethee *Tom*, beat Cuts Saddle, put a few Flocks in
the point, poore iade is wrung in the Withers, out of all celfe.

Enter another Carrier.

2. *Car.* Pease and Beanes are as danke heere as a dog, and
that is the next way to giue poore Iades the Bots: this house
is turned vpside downe since *Robin Ostler* died.

1. *Car.* Poore fellow neuer ioyed since the price of Oates
rose, it was the death of him.

2. *Car.* I thinke this to be the most villanous house in all
London road for Fleas, I am stung like a Tench.

1. *Car.* Like a Tench? by the Masse there is neare a King
christen, cold be better bit, the I haue bin since the first cock.

2. *Car.* Why, you will allow vs nere a Iordaine, and then
wee leake in your Chimney, and your Chamber-lie breedes
Fleas like a Loach.

1. *Car.* What *Ostler*, come away, & be hangd, come away.

2. *Car.* I haue a Gammon of Bacon, & two razes of Gin-
ger, to be deliuered as farre as *Charing-crosse*.

1. *Car.* Gods body the Turkies in my panier are quite star-
ued: what *Ostler*? a plague on thee, hast thou neuer an eye in
thy head? canst not heare, and t'were not as good a deed as

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drinke, to breake the pate of thee, I am a very villaine; come and be hang'd, hast no faith in thee:

Enter Gads-hill.

Gads-hill. Good-morrow *Carriers*, What's a clocke?

Car. I thinke it betwo a clocke.

Gad. I prethee lend me thy Lantherne, to see my Gelding in the Stable.

1. *Car.* Nay by God soft; I know a tricke worth two of that I faith.

Gad. I prethee lend me thine.

2. *Car.* I, when, canst tell? Lend me thy Lanterne (quoth he) Marry Ile see thee hanged first.

Gad. Sirra *Carrier*, What time do you meane to come to London.

2 *Car.* Time enough to go to bed with a Candle, I warrant thee. Come neighbor *Muges*, weele call vp the Gentlemen, they will along with company, for they haue great charge.

Enter Chamberlaine.

Exeunt.

Gad. What ho, *Chamberlaine*.

Cham. At hand quoth Picke-purse.

Gad. That's euen as faire, as at hand qd. the *Chamber-lain*, for thou varieest no more from picking of purses, then giuing direction doth from labouring: thou layest the plot how.

Cham. Good morrow Master *Gads-hill*, it holds currât that I told you yester night, ther'e's a *Franklin* in the wild of *Kent*, hath broght three hundred Marks with him in Gold, I heard him tell it to one of his company last night at supper, a kind of Auditor, one that hath abundance of charge too, God knowes what, they are vp already, and call for Egges & Butter: they will away presently.

Gad. Sirra, if they meet not with Saint *Nicholas Clarkes*, Ile giue thee this necke.

Cham. No, Ile none of it; I prethee keepe that for the Hangman, for I know thou worshipest Saint *Nicholas*, as truly as a man of falshood may.

Gad. What talkest thou to me of the Hangman? if I hang, Ile make a fat paire of gallows: for if I hang, old sir *Iohn hâgs* with me, & thou knowes he is no starueling: tut, there are o-

ther

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ther Troians that thou dream'st not of, the which for sport sake are content to do the profession some grace, that would (if matters should be lookt into) for their credit sake, make all whole: I am ioyned with no foot-land rakers, no long-staffe sixpenny strikers, none of these mad mustachio purple hewd malt-worms, but with nobility & tranquility. Burgomasters and great Oneyers, such as can hold in such as will strike sooner then speak, & speake sooner then drinke, & drinke sooner then pray; and yet (Zounds) I lie, for they pray continually to their Saint the common-wealth, or rather not pray to her, but prey on her, for they ride vp & downe on her, and make her their bootes.

Cham. What the Common-wealth their Bootes? will she hold out Water in foule way?

Gad. She will, she will, Iustice hath liquord her: we steale as in a Castle, cockesure; wee haue the receipt of Ferneseed, wee walke inuisible.

Cham. Nay, by my faith, I thinke you are more beholding to the night then to Ferneseed, for your walking inuisible.

Gad. Giue me thy hand, thou shalt haue a share in our purchase, as I am a true man.

Cham. Nay, rather let me haue it, as you are a false theefe.

Gad. Go to, *home* is a comon name to all men: bid the *Ostler* bring my Gelding out of the stable; farewell ye muddy knaue.

Enter Prince, Poyres, and Peto, &c.

Poyres. Come shelter, shelter, I haue remooued *Falstafes* Horse, and he frets like a gum'd veluet.

Prince. Stand close.

Enter Falstaffe.

Fals. *Poyres*, *Poyres*, and be hangd *Poyres*.

Prince. Peace ye fat kidneyd rascall, what a brawling doest thou keepe?

Fals. What *Poyres*, *Hal*?

Prince. He is walkt vp to the top of the hill, Ile go seek him.

Fals. I am accurst to rob in that theeues company, the rascal hath remoued my horse, and tyed them I know not where, if I trauel but 4. foot by the squire further a foot, I shall breake my wind: Well, I doubt not but to die a faire death for all this, if I scape hanging for killing that rogue. I haue forsworn his company hourelly any time this 22. year, yet I am bewitcht.

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wicht with the rogues company. If the rascal haue not giuen me medicines to make me loue him, jle be handg: it cold not be else, I haue drunke medicines, *Paines, Hal*, a plague on you both. *Bardoll, Peto*, Ile starue ere jle rob a foot further: and t'were not as good a deed as drinke, to turne true man, and to leaue these Rogues, I am the veriest Varlet that euer chewed with a tooth: eight yardes of vneuen ground, is threescore and ten miles afoot with me; and the stony hearted Villaines know it well enough, a plague vpon it when treeces cannot be true one to another.

They whistle.

Whew, a plague vpō you all, giue me my Horle, you rogues, Giue me my Horle, and be handg.

Prin. Peace ye fat guts, lie downe, lay thine eare close to the ground, and list if thou can heare the tread of Trauellers.

Fals. Haue you any leauers to lift me vp again being down? *Zbloud*, Ile not beare mine owne flesh so far afoot againe for all the Coyne in thy Fathers Exchequer: what a plague mean ye to colt me thus?

Prince. Thou liest, thou art not colted, thou art vncolted,

Fals. I prethee good *Prince Hal*, helpe mee to my horle, Good Kings sonne.

Prince. Out you Rogue, shall I be your Ostler?

Fals. Go hang thy selfe in thine owne Heire apparant Garters: if I be tane, jle peach for this: and I haue not Ballades made on all, and sung to filthy tunes, let a cup of Sacke be my poyson: when ieaft is so forward, and afoot too, I hate it.

Enter Gads-kill.

Gad. Stand.

Fal. So I doe against my will.

Poin. O tis our setter, I know his voice: *Bardol* what newes?

Bar. Case yee, case ye; on with your Vizards, ther's mony of the Kings comming downe the hill, tis going to the Kings Exchequer.

Fals. You lie you rogue, tis going to the Kings Tauerne.

Gad. I here's enough to make vs all.

Fals. To be hanged.

Prince. You foure shall front them in the narrow Lane: *Nea Paines* and I, will walke lower; if they scape from your encounter, then they light on vs.

Peto.

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Peto. But how many be they of them?

Gad. Some eight or ten.

Fals. Zounds, will they not rob vs?

Prince. What? a coward Sir *John Pannch*?

Fals. Indeed I am not *John of Gant* our Granfather, but yet no coward, *Hal*.

Prince. Well, weele leaue that to the proofe.

Poynes. Sirra *Iack*, thy horse stands behind the hedge, when thou needest him, there thou shalt find him, farewell, & stand

Fals. Now cannot I strike him if I should be hangd. (fast.

Prince. Ned, where are our disguises?

Poynes. Heere hard by stand close.

Fals. Now my maisters, happy man be his dole, say, eue ry man to his busines.

Enter the Travellers.

Tra. Come neighbor, the boy shall lead our horses downe the hill, weele walke a foote a while, and ease our legs.

Theeues. Stay.

Tra. Iesus blesse vs.

Fals. Strike, downe with them, cut the villaines throats: a horeson caterpillars! Bacon-fed knaues, they hate vs youth, downe with them, fleece them.

Tra. O, we are vndone, both we and ours for euer.

Fals. Hang ye gorbellied knaues, are ye vndone? no ye fat chuffes, I would your store were heere: on bacons, on, what ye knaues? yong men must liue, you are grand Iurers, are ye? weele iure ye yfaith.

Heere they rob them and bind them; Enter the Prince, and Poynes.

Prince. The theeues haue bound the true men: now could thou and I rob the theeues, and goe merrily to *London*, it wold be argument for a weeke, laughter for a month, and a good iest for euer.

Poynes. Stand close, I heare them comming.

Enter the theeues againe.

Fals. Come my masters, let vs share, and then to horse before day: and the *Prince* & *Poynes* be not two arrant cowards, theres no equity stirring, ther's no more valour in that *Peines* than in a wild Ducke.

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As they are sharing, the Prince & Poynes
Prin. Your money. *set upon them, they all run away, and Fal-*
Poin. Villaines. *staffe after a blow or two runs away too, lea-*
uing the booty behind them.

Prin. Got with much ease. Now merrily to horse, the theeues are scattered, and posselt with feare so strongly, that they dare not meet each other, each take his fellow for an officer, away good *Ned*, *Falstaffe* sweare to death, and lards the leane earth as he walkes along: wert not for laughing, I should pittie him:

Poynes. How the rogue roard

Exeunt.

Enter Hotspur solus, reading a Letter.

But for mine owne part, my Lord, I could be well contented to be there, in respect of the loue I beare your house.

He could be contented, why is he not then? in respect of the loue he beares our house: he shoues in this, he loues his own barne better then he loues our house. Let me see some more.

The purpose you undertake is dangerous.

Why thats certaine, tis dangerous to take a cold, to sleep, to drinke; but I tell you (my Lord foole) out of this nettle danger, we plucke this flower safety.

The purpose you undertake is dangerous, the friends you haue named uncertaine, the time it selfe vnsorted, and your whole plot too light for the counterpoise of so great an opposition.

Say you so, say you so, I say vnto you again, you are a shal-low cowardly hinde, & you lie: what a lack-braine is this? by the Lord our plot is a good plot as euer was laid, our friend true & constant: a good plot, good friends, & ful of expectatiō an excellent plot, very good friends; what a frosty spirited rogue is this? why my L. of *Yorke* cōmends the plot, & the general course of the action, *Zounds* & I were now by this rascal I could braine him with his Ladies Fanne. Is there not my father my vnckle, & my selfe, Lord *Edmond Mortimer*, my Lord of *Yorke*, & *Owen Glendower*? Is there not besides the *Dowglas*? haue I not all the^r letters to meet me in Armes by the ninth of the next month? and are they not some of the^r set forward already? What a pagan rascal is this & Infidell? Ha, you shall see now in very sincerity of feare and cold heart, will he to the King, and lay open all our præceedings. O, I could diuide my selfe,

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selfe, and go to buffets, for mouing such a dish of skim Milke with so honorable an action. Hang him, let him tel the King, we are prepared. I will set forward to night. *Enter his Lady.* How now Kate, I must leaue you within these two houres.

Lady. O my good Lord, why are you thus alone?
For what offence haue I this fortnight been
A banisht woman from my *Harries* bed?
Tell me, sweet Lord, what is't that takes from thee
Thy stomacke, pleasure, and thy golden sleepe?
Why dost thou bend thine eies vpon the earth,
And start so often when thou sitst alone?
Why hast thou lost the fresh bloud in thy cheekes,
And giuen my treasures and my rights of thee,
To thicke-eyd musing, and curst melancholy?
In my faint slumbers, I by thee watcht,
And heard thee murmure tales of yron Warres,
Speake tearmes of manage to thy bounding Steed,
Cry courage to the field: And thou hast talkt
Of sallies; and retires, trenches, tents,
Of Pallizadoes, frontiers, parapets,
Of basilisks, of canon, culuerin,
Of prisoners ransome, and of souldiers slaine,
And all the current, of a heddy fight,
Thy spirit within thee hath been so at war,
And thus hath so bestird thee in thy sleepe,
That beds of sweat hath stood vpon thy brow,
Like bubbles in a late disturbed streame,
And in thy face strange motions haue appeard,
Such as we see when men restraine their breath,
On some great sodaine hast. O what portents are these?
Some heauy busines hath my Lord in hand,
And I must know it, else he loues me not.

Hot. What ho, is *Gilliams* with the Packet gone?

Ser. He is, my Lord, an houre agoe.

Hot. Hath *Butler* brought those Horses from the Sheriffe?

Ser. One Horse, my Lord, he brought euen now.

Hot. What Horse? a roane, a crop eare, is it not?

Ser. It is my Lord.

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Hot. That Roan shal be my throne. Well, I wil back him
Straight. *Esperance*, bid *Butler* lead him forth into the parke.

Lady. But heare you my Lord.

Hot. What saiest thou my Lady?

La. What is it carries you away?

Hot. Why, my horse (my loue) my horse.

La. Out you mad-headed ape, a weazel hath not such a deale
of spleene, as you are toft with. In faith I know your busines
Harry, that I wil: I feare, my brother *Mortimer* doth stir about
his title, & hath sent for you to line his enterprife, but if you

Hot. So far a foot, I shal be weary, loue. (go

La. Com, come, you Paraquito, answer me directly, vnto this
question that I shal aske: in faith Ile breake thy little finger
Harry, and if thou wilt not tell me all things true.

Hot. Away, away you trifler, loue; I loue thee not,
I care not for thee *Kate*, this is no world
To play with mammets, and to tilt with lips,
We must haue bloody noses, and crackt crownes,
And passe them currant too: gods me my horse.
What saist thou *Kate*, what wouldst thou haue with me?

La. Do you not loue me? do you not indeed?
Wel, doe not then? for since you loue me not,
I will not loue my selfe. Doe you not loue me?
Nay, tell me, if you speake in icast, or no?

Hot. Come wilt thou see me ride?
And when I am a horse-backe, I will sweare,
I loue thee infinitely. But harke you *Kate*,
I must not haue you henceforth, question me?
Whither I go: nor reason were about,
Whither I must, I must: and to conclude,
This euening must I leaue you gentle *Kate*.
I know you wise, but yet no farther wise,
Then *Harry Percyes* wife. Constant you are,
But yet a woman, and for secrecie,
No Lady closer, for I will belecue,
Thou wilt not vtter what thou doest not know:
And so far will I trust thee, gentle *Kate*.

La. How, so far?

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Hot. Not an inch further : but harke you *Kate*
Whither I go, thither shall you goe too:
To day will I set forward, to morrow you:
Will this content you *Kate*?

La. It must of force.

Exeunt.

Enter Prince and Poynes.

Prince. *Ned*, prethee come out of that fat roome, and lend me thy hand to laugh a little.

Poynes. Where hast beene *Hall*?

Prin. With three or foure Logger-heads, amongst three or foure-score Hogs-heads. I haue founded the very base string of Humilitie. Sirra, I am sworne brother to a leash of Drawers and can call them all by their Christian names, as *Tom*, *Dick*, and *Francis* : they take it already vpon their saluation, that though I be Prince of *Wales*; yet I am the king of *Curtesie*, & tell me flatly, I am not proud *Iacke* like *Falstaffe*; but a *Corinthian*, a lad of mettall, a good Boy (by the Lord so they cal me) and when I am king of *England*, I shall command al the good lads in *Eastcheap*. They call drinking deepe, dying *Scarlet*; & when you breath in your watring, they cry hem, and bid you play it off. To conclude, I am so good a proficient in one quarter of an houre, that I can drinke with any *Tinker* in his owne language during my life. I will tell thee *Ned*, thou hast lost much honor, that thou wert not with me in this action : but sweet *Ned*; to sweeten which name of *Ned*, I giue thee this penniworth of Sugar, clapt euen now into my hand by an vnder skinker, one that neuer spake other English in his life, then 8. shillings & 6. pence, & *You are welcome*, with this shrill addition, *Anon, anon sir, skore a pint of Bastard in the Halfe moon*, or so. But *Ned*, to driue away time till *Falstaffe* come, I prethee doe thou stand in some by-roome, while I question my puny Drawer, to what end he gaue me the Sugar, & do neuer leaue calling *Francis*, that his tale to me may be nothing but, *Anon* : step aside, and Ile shew thee a present.

Poynes. *Francis.*

Prince. Thou art perfect.

Poynes. *Francis.*

Fran. *Anon, anon sir*; looke down into the *Pomgranet*, *Ralfe.*

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Prince. Come hither *Francis.*

Francis. My Lord.

Prince. How long hast thou to serue, *Francis?*

Francis. Forsooth fve yeares, and as much as to

Poines. *Francis.*

Francis. Anone, anone sir.

Prince. Fve yeares, berlady along lease for the chincking of Pewter : But *Francis*, darest thou be so valiant, as to play the coward with thy Indenture, and shew it a faire paire of heeles, and runne from it?

Francis. O Lord sir, Ile be sworne vpon all the bookes in England, I could find in my heart.

Poines. *Francis.*

Francis. Anone sir.

Prince. How old art thou *Francis?*

Francis. Let me see, about *Michaelmas* next I shall be

Poines. *Francis.*

Francis. Anone sir, pray you stay a little, my Lord.

Prince. Nay but harke you *Francis*, for the Sugar thou gauest me, t'was but a penny worth, wast not?

Francis. O Lord, I would it had beene two.

Prince. I will giue thee for it a thousand pound, aske mee when thou wilt, and thou shalt haue it.

Poines. *Francis.*

Francis. Anon, anone.

Prince. Anon *Francis?* No *Francis*, but to morrow *Francis.* or *Francis*, on thurseday : or indeed *Francis*, when thou wilt : But *Francis.*

Francis. My Lord.

Prince. Wilt thou rob this Leatherne Ierkin, Christall button, Not-pated, Agat ring, Puke stocking, Caddice garter, Smooth tongue, Spanish pouch?

Francis. O Lord sir, who do you meane?

Prince. Why then your Browne bastarde is your onelie drinke : for looke you *Francis*, your White canuasse doublet will sulley. In *Barbary* sir, it cannot come to so much.

Francis. What sir,

Poines. *Francis.*

Prince. Away you rogue, dost thou not heare them call?

J Heere they both call him, the Drawer stands amazed, not knowing which way to goe.

Enter Vintner.

Vint.

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Vint. What, standst thou still, and hearest such a calling? looketo the Ghestes within. My Lord, old sir *John* with halfe a dozen more, are at the dore, shall I let them in?

Prin. Let them alone awhile, & then open the dore: *Poines.*

Poines. Anone, anone sir.

Enter Poines.

Prin. Sirra, *Falstaffe* and the rest of the Theeues, are at the doore, shall we be merry?

Poin. As merry as Crickets, my lad: but harke yee, what cunning match haue you made with this iest of the Drawer; come, what's the issue?

Prin. I am now of al humors, that haue shewed themselues humors, since the old daies of good man *Adam*, to the pupill age of this present Twelue a cloke at midnight. What's a clocke *Francis*?

Francis. Anone, anone sir.

Prin. That euer this fellow should haue fewer words then a Parret, & yet the son of a Woman. His industry is vp staires and downe staires, his eloquence the parcell of a reckoning. I am not yet of *Perceys* mind, the *Hotspur* of the North, he that kills me some 6. or 7. dozen of *Scots* at a breakfast, washes his hands, and sayes to his wife, Fie vpon this quiet life, I want worke. O my sweet *Harry* sayes she! how many hast thou kild to day? Giue my Roan horse a drench (sayes he) and answers, some fourteene, an hour after: a trifle, a trifle. I prethee cal in *Falstaffe*, Ile play *Percy*, and that damnde *Brawne* shall play Dame *Mortimer* his wife. *Rino*, saies the drunkard: call in ribs, call in Tallow.

Enter Falstaffe.

Poines. Welcome *Iacke*, where hast thou beene?

Fals. A plague of all cowards I say, and a vengeance too, marry & Amen: giue me a cup of sack boy. E're I lead this life long, Ile sow neather stocks, & mend them, & foot them too. A plague of all cowards; Giue me a cup of sacke, rogue, is there no vertue extant?

Prin. Didst thou neuer see *Titan* kisse a dish of butter, pittifull hearted *Titan* that melted at the sweet tale of the Sun? if thou didst, then behold that compound.

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Fal. You rogue, here's Lime in this Sack too, there is nothing but rogerie to be found in villanous man; yet a coward is worse then a cup of sack with lime in it. A villanous coward, go thy waies old *Iacke*, die when thou wilt, if manhood, good manhood be not forgot vpon the face of the earth, then am I a shotten herring: there liues not 3. good men vnhangd in *England*, and one of them is fat, and growes old; God helpe the while, a bad world I say: I would I were a weauer, I could sing *Psalmes*, or any thing. A plague of all cowards, I say still.

Princ. How now *Wolfsacke*, what mutter you?

Fal. A Kings Son? if I doe not beat thee out of thy Kingdome with a dagger of Lath, and driue all thy Subiects afore thee like a flocke of Wild-geese, Ile neuer weare haire on my face more, you Prince of *Wales*.

Prin. Why you horsen round man, what's the matter?

Fal. Are you not a coward? answere me to that, and *poines* there.

Prin. Zounds ye fat paunch, and ye call me coward, by the Lord Ile stab thee,

Fal. I call thee coward? Ile see thee damnde eare I call thee coward, but I would giue a thousand pound I cold run as fast as thou canst. You are straight enough in the shoulders, you care not who sees your backe: call you that backing of your friends? a plague vpon such backing: giue me them that will face me, giue me a cup of sack, I am a rogue if I drunk to day

Pri. O villaine, thy lips are scarce wip'd since thou drunkst last.

Fal. All's one for that.

He drinks.

A plague of all cowars still say I.

Prin. What's the matter?

Fal. What's the matter? heere bee foure of vs, haue tane a thousand pound this morning.

Prin. Where is it *Iacke*, where is it?

Fals. Where is it? taken from vs it is: a hundred vpon poore foure of vs.

Prin. What, a hundred man?

Fal. I am a rogue, if I weare not a halfe sword, with a dozē of them two houres together. I haue scaped by miracle. I am eight times thrust through the Doublet, foure through the
Hole,

Henry the Fourth.

Hose, my buckler cut through & through, my Sword hack't like a hand-saw, *ecce signum*. I neuer dealt better since I was a man, all would not do. A plague of al cowards, let them speake if they speake more or lesse then truth, they are villaines, and the sonnes of darknesse.

Gad. Speake sirs, how was it;

Rofs. Wee foure set vpon some dozen.

Falst. Sixteene at least, my Lord.

Rofs. And bound them.

Peto. No, no, they were not bound.

Fal. You rogue they were bound, euery man of them, or I am a Iew else, an Ebrew Iew.

Rofs. As we were sharing, some 6. or 7. fresh men set vpō vs.

Fal. And vnbound the rest, and then come in the other.

Prin. What fought ye with them all?

Fal. All? I know not what you call all: but if I fought not with fifty of them, I am a bunch Radish: if there were not two or three and fifty vpon poore old *Jack*, then am I no two leg'd creature.

Poin. Pray God you haue not murthered some of them.

Pal. Nay that's past praying for, I haue pepper'd two of them, Two I am sure I haue payed, two rogues in Buckrom suites: I tell thee what *Hal*, if I tel thee a lie, spit in my face; call me Horse: thou knowest my old word: here I lay, and thus I bore my point: foure rogues in buccorom let driue at me.

Prin. What, foure? thou saidst but two, euen now.

Fal. Foure *Hal*, I told thee foure.

Poin. I, I; he said foure.

Fal. These foure came all a front, & mainly thrust at me; I made no more adoe, but tooke all their seuen points in my Target, thus.

Prin. Seuen? why there were but foure, euen now.

Fal. In Buccorom.

Poin. I, foure, in Buccorum suites.

Fal. Seuen, by these Hilts, or I am a villaine else.

Prin. Prethee let him alone, we shall haue more anon.

Falst. Doeſt thou heare me *Hal*.

Prin. I and marke thee too, *Iacke*.

Falst.

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Fal. Do so, for it is worth the listning to, these nine in Buc-krom, that I told thee of.

Prin. So, two more already.

Fal. Their points being broken,

Poines. Downe fell his hose.

Fal. Began to giue me ground, but I followed me close, came in foot & hand, & with a thought, seuen of the eleuen I paid.

Prin. O monstrous! eleuen bukrommen grown out of two?

Fal. But as the diuell wold haue it, three mis-begottē knaues, in *Kendall* greene, came at my backe and let driue at me, for it was so darke, *Hal*, that thou couldst not see thy hand.

Prin. These lyes are like the father that begets thē, grosse as a moũtain, opē palpable. Why thou clay braind guts, thou knotty-pated foole, thou horson obscene greasie tallowcatch.

Fal. What? art thou mad? art thou mad? is not the truth the truth?

Prin. Why how couldst thou know these men in *Kendall* greene, when it was so darke thou couldst not see thy hand? come tell vs your reason, What saist thou to this?

Poines. Come your reason Iacke, your reason.

Fal. What, vpon compulsion? Zounds, and I were at the strappado, or al the racks in the world, I would not tel you on compulsion. Giue you a reason on compulsion? if reasons were as plenty as blackberries, I would giue no man a reason vpon compulsion; I.

Prin. He be no longer guiltie of this sin. This sanguine coward, this bed-preiser, this horse-back-breaker, this huge hill of flesh.

Fal. Zbloud you staruling, you elfskin, you dried neats tong, buls-pizzell, you stock-fish: O for breath to vtter what is like thee? you taylers yard, you sheath, you bowcase, you vile standing tucke.

Prin. Wel, breath a while, and then to it againe, & when thou hast tired thy selfe in base cōparisons, hear me speak but thus.

Poyn. Marke, Iacke.

Prin. We two, saw you foure, set on foure & bound them, & were masters of their welth: marke now how a plaine tale shal put you downe: then did we two set on you foure, and with a word

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word, outfac'd you from your prize, & haue it, yea, & can shew it you here in the house: and *Falstaffe*, you carried your guts away as nimbly, with as quick dexterity, & roared for mercy, and still run and roare, as cuer I heard Bul-calf. What a slaue art thou to hack thy sword as thou hast done, & then say it was in fight? what tricke? what deuice? what starting hole canst thou now find out, to hide thee from this open and apparant shame?

Prin. Come lets heare *Iacke*, what tricke hast thou now?

Fals. By the Lord, I knew yee as well as hee that made yee. Why heare you my maisters, was it for mee, to kill the Heire apparant? should I turne vpon the true Prince? VVhy, thou knowest I am as valiant as *Hercules*: but beware instinct, the Lion will not touch the true Prince, instinct is a great matter. I was a Coward on instinct, I shall thinke the better of my selfe, and thee, during my life; I, for a valiant Lion, and thou for a true Prince: but, by the Lord Lads, I am glad you haue the money. Hostesse clap to the doores, watch to night, pray to morrow: Gallants, Lads, Boyes, Hearts of gold, all the titles of good fellowship come to you. What, shall we be merry? shall wee haue a Play extempore?

Prin. Content, and the argument shall bee, thy running away.

Fal. A, no more of that *Hal*, & thou louest me. *Enter Hostesse.*

Hof. O Iesu, my Lord the Prince!

Prin. How now my Lady the *Hostesse*, what saist thou to me?

Hof. Marry, my L. there is a Noble man of the court, at doore would speake with you: he sayes he comes from your father.

Prin. Giue him as much as will make him a Royall man, and send him backe againe to my mother.

Fal. What manner of man is he?

Hof. An old man.

Fal. What doth grautie out of his Bed at midnight? Shall I giue him his answer?

Prin. Pretheedoe *Iacke*.

Fal. Fayth, and ile send him packing.

Prin. Now sirs: birlady you fought faire, so did you *Peto*, so did you *Bardol*; you are Lyons too, you ran away vpon instinct, you will not touch the true Prince, no fie.

Bar. Faith, I ran when I saw others runne.

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Prince. Faith, tell me now in earnest, how came *Falstafles* Sword so hackt?

Peto. Why, he hackt it with his Dagger, and said he would sweare truth out of *England* but hee would make you beleue it was done in fight, and perswaded vs to doe the like.

Car. Yea, and to tickle our noses with speare-grasse, to make them bleede, and then to beslubber our garments with it, and sweare it was the blood of true men. I did that I did not this seauen yeare before, I blusht to heare his monstrous deuises.

Prin. O villaine, thou stolest a cup of Sacke eightene yeeres ago, and wert taken with the manner, and euer since thou hast blusht extempore, thou hadst fire and sword on thy side, and yet thou ranst away: what instinct hadst thou for it?

Bar. My Lord, doe you see these meteors? doe you behold these exhalations?

Prin. I doe.

Bar. What thinke you they portend?

Prin. Hot Liuers, and cold Purces.

Bar. Choler, my Lord, if rightly taken.

Enter Falstafle.

Prin. No, if rightly taken, Halter. Here comes leane *Iacke*, here comes bare-bone. How now my sweete creature of Bombast, how long is't ago, *Iacke*, since thou sawest thine owne Knee?

Fal. My owne Knee; when I was about thy yeares (*Hal*) I was not an Eagles talent in the wast: I could haue crept into any Aldermans thumbe-ring: a plague of sighing-and griefe, it blowes a man vp like a bladder. Ther's villanous newes abroad, here was sir *Iohn braby* from your Father: you must goe to the Court in the morning. The same mad fellow of the *North Percy*; and he of *Wales*, that gaue *Amamon* the Bastinado, and made *Lucifer* cuckold, and swore the *Dinell* his true liegeman vpon the Crosse of a welch hooke; what a plague call you him?

Poin. O *Glendower*.

Fal. Owen, Owen, the same, and his Sonne in law *Mortimer*, and old *Northumberland*, and the sprightly Scot of Scottes *Douglas*, that runnes a horse-backe vp a hill perpendicular.

Prin. Hee that rides at high speed, and with a Pistoll killes a Sparrow flying.

Fal.

Henry the Fourth.

Fals. You haue hit it.

Princee. So did he neuer the Sparrow.

Fals. Well, that rascall hath good mettall in him, he will not runne.

Prince. Why what a rascall art thou then, to praise him so for running?

Fals. A horse-backe (yeec Cuckoe) but on foote hee will not budge a foote.

Prin. Yes lacke, vpon instinct.

Fals. I grant ye, vpon instinct: well, hee is there too, and one *Mordake*, and a thousand blew Caps more *Worcester* is stolne away by night, thy fathers beard is turn'd white with the newes, you may buy Land now as cheape as stincking Mackrell.

Prin. Then tis like, if there come a hot Sunne, and this ciuill buffeting hold, wee shall buy Mayden-heads as they buy Hobnailes, by the hundreds.

Fals. By the Masse lad, thou saist true, it is like wee shall haue good trading that way. But tell me *Hal*, Art not thou horrible afeard? thou being Heire apparent, could the world picke thee out three such Enemies againe, as that fiend *Douglas*, that spirit *Percy*, and that diuell *Glendower*? Art thou not horrible afraide? doth not thy blood thrill at it?

Prin. Not a whit yfaith: I lacke some of thy instinct.

Fals. Well, thou wilt be horrible chidde to morrow when thou comest to thy Father: if thou doe loue mee, practise an answer.

Prince. Do thou stand for my Father, and examine me vpon the particulars of my life.

Fals. Shall I? content: this Chaire shalbe my State, this Dagger my Scepter, and this Cushin my Crowne.

Prin. Thy State is taken for a ioynd stoole, thy golden Scepter for a leaden Dagger, and thy precious rich Crowne, for a pitifull bald Crowne.

Fals. Well, and the fire of Grace be not quite out of thee, now shalt thou be moued. Giue mee a cuppe of Sacke to make mine eyes looke redde, that it may be thought I haue wept: For I must speake in passion, and I will doe it in King *Cambises* vaine.

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Prin. Well, heere is my legge.

Fal. And heere is my speech: stand aside Nobilitie.

Ho. O Iesu, this is excellent sport, yfaith.

Fal. Weepe not sweet Queene, for trickling teares are vaine.

Ho. O the father, how he holds his countenance?

Fal. For Gods sake Lords, conuey my trustfull Queene:
For teares do stop the floud-gates of her eies.

Ho. O Iesu, hee doth it as like one of these harlotry Players,
as euer I see.

Fal. Peace good Pint-pot, peace good tickle braine.

Harry, I doe not onely maruell where thou spendest thy time,
but also, how thou art accompanied. For though the Cammo-
mille, the more it is troden, the faster it growes; yet youth, the
more it is wasted, the sooner it weares: thou art my sonne, I haue
partly thy mothers word, partly my opinion; but chiefly, a vil-
lanous trick of thine eye, and a foolish hanging of thy neather
lip, that doth warrant me. If then thou be sonne to me, herelieth
the poynt; why, being sonne to me, art thou so pointed at: shall
the blessed sonne of heauen proue a micher, and eate Blackeber-
ries? a question not to be askt. Shall the sonne of *England* proue
a thiefe, and take purses? a question to be askt. There is a thing,
Harry, which thou hast often heard of, and it is knowne to ma-
ny in our Land, by the name of Pitch; this Pitch (as ancient wri-
ters doe report) doth defile? so doth the company thou keepest:
For *Harry,* now I doe not speake to thee in drinke, but in teares,
not in pleasure, but in passion; not in words onely, but in woes
also: and yet there is a vertuous man, whom I haue often noted
in thy company, but I know not his name.

Prince. What manner of man, and it like your Maiestie?

Fal. A goodly portly man yfaith, and a corpulent, of a cheer-
full look, a pleasing eie, and a most noble cariage, and as I think,
his age some fifty, or birlady, inclining to threescore, and now
I remember me, his name is *Falstaffe*: if that man should be lewd-
ly giuen, he deceiues me. For *Harry,* I see vertue in his looks; if
then the tree may be knowne by the fruit, as the fruit by the tree,
then peremptorily I speake it, there is vertue in that *Falstaffe*,
him keepe with, the rest banish: and tell me now, thou naughty
varlet, tell me, where hast thou been this month?

Prince.

Henry the Fourth.

Prince. Dost thou speake like a King? doe thou stand for me, and Ile play my father.

Fal. Dispose me, if thou dost it halfe so grauely, so maiestically both in word and matter, hang me vp by the heeles for a Rabbet-sucker, or a Poulters hare.

Prince. Well, heere I am set.

Fal. And heere I stand, iudge my maisters.

Prince. Now *Harry*, whence come you?

Fal. Mynoble Lord, from *Eastcheape*.

Prince. The complaints I heare of thee, are grieuous.

Fal. Zbloud my Lord, they are false: nay, Ile tickle yee for a young *Prince* yfaith.

Prince. Swarest thou, vngracious boy? henceforth nere look on me, thou art violently carried away from grace, there is a Diuell haunts thee in the likenesse of a fat old man, a tunne of man is thy companion: why dost thou conuerse with that trunke of humors, that boulding-hutch of beastlinesse, that swolne parcell of Dropsies, that huge bombard of Sacke, that stufft Cloke-bag of guttes, that rosted Manningtree Oxe with the pudding in his belly, that reuerent Vice, that gray Iniquitie, that father Ruffian, that vanity in yeares: wherein is he good, but to taste Sacke and drinke it? wherein neate and cleanly, but to carue a Capon and eate it? wherein cunning, but in Craft? wherein craftie, but in Villanie? wherein villanous, but in all things? wherein worthy, but in nothing?

Fal. I would your Grace would take mee with you: whom meanes your Grace?

Prince. That villanous abhominrble misleader of youth, *Falstaffe*, that old white-bearded Sathan.

Fal. My Lord, the man I know. *Prin.* I know thou dost.

Fal. But to say, I know more harme in him then in my selfe, were to say more then I know: that he is old (the more the pittie) his white haire do witnesse it: but that he is (sauing your reuerence) a whoremaster, that I vterly deny: if Sacke and Sugar be a fault, God helpe the wicked: if to be old and merry be a sinne, then many an old Host that I know, is damn'd: if to bee fatte, be to be hated, then *Pharaohs* leane kine are to be loued. No, my good Lord, banish *Peto*, banish *Bardol*, banish *Poines*; but

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for sweet *Iacke Falstaffe*, kind *Iacke Falstaffe*, true *Iacke Falstaffe*, valiant *Iacke Falstaffe*, and therefore more valiant, being as hee is old *Iacke Falstaffe*, banish not him thy *Harries* company, banish not him thy *Harries* company; banish plumpe *Iacke*, and banish all the world.

Prin. I doe, I will,

Enter Bardoll running.

Bar. O, my Lord, my Lord, the Sheriefe, with a most monstrous Watch is at the dore.

Fal. Out you rogue, play out the Play: I haue much to say in the behalfe of that *Falstaffe*.

Enter the Hostesse.

Hos. O Iesu, my Lord, my Lord!

Fal. Heigh, heigh, the diuell rides vpon a Fiddle-sticke, what's the matter?

Hos. The Sherife and all the Watch are at the dore; they are come to search the House, shall I let them in?

Fal. Dost thou heare *Hal*? neuer call a true peece of Gold a Counterfeit, thou art essentially made, without seeming so.

Prince. And thou a naturall Coward, without instinct.

Fal. I deny your Maior; if you will deny the Sherife, so, if not, let him enter. If I become not a Cart as wel as another man, a plague on my bringing vp: I hope I shall as soone be strangled with a Halter as an other.

Prince. Goe hide thee behinde the Arras, therest walke vp aboue. Now my Masters, for a true Face and good Conscience.

Fal. Both which I haue had; but their date is out, and therefore Ile hide me.

Prin. Call in the Sherife.

Enter Sherife and the Carrier.

Prin. Now maister Sherife, what is your will with me?

Sher. First, pardon me, my Lord. A hue and cry hath followed certaine men vnto this house.

Prince. What men?

Sher. One of them is well knowne, my gracious Lord, a grosse fat man.

Car. As fat as Butter.

Prin. The man, I do assure you is not heere, For I my selfe at this time haue employed him:

And

Henry the Fourth.

And Sherife, I will ingage my word to thee,
That I will by to morrow dinner time,
Send him to answere thee or any man,
For any thing he shall be charg'd withall,
And so let me intreate you leaue the house.

Sher. I will my Lord, there are two Gentlemen
Haue in this robbery lost 300. markes.

Prince. It may be so : if he haue rob'd these men,
He shalbe answerable : and so farewell.

Sher. Good night, my noble Lord,

Prin. I thinke it is good morrow, is it not ?

Sher. Indeed my Lord, I thinke it be two a clocke. *Exit.*

Prince. This oyle rascall is knowne as well as Poules : go call
him forth.

Peto. *Falstaffe?* fast asleepe behinde the Arras, and snorting
like a horse.

Prin. Harke how hard he fetches breath, search his pockets.

He searcheth his pockets, and findeth certaine papers.

Prince. What hast thou found ?

Peto. Nothing but papers, my Lord.

Prince. Lets see what be they : reade them.

Item a Capon

ii.s.ii.d.

Item sawce

iiii.d.

Item, Sacke, two gallons.

v.s.viii.d.

Item Anchoues and Sacke after Supper.

ii.s.vi.d.

Item bread.

ob.

O monstrous, but one halfe peniworth of bread to this intol-
erable deale of Sacke: what there is else, keepe close, weele reade
it at more aduantage: there let him sleep till day; Ile to the court
in the morning. We must all to the warres, and thy place shalbe
honourable. Ile procure this fat rogue a charge of foote, and I
know his death will be a match of twelue score; the money shall
be payed backe againe with aduantage: be with mee betimes in
the morning, and so good morrow *Peto.*

Peto. Good morrow, good my Lord. *Exeunt.*

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Lord Mortimer,

Owen Glendower.

Mor. These promises are faire, the parties sure,

And

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And our induction full of prosperous hope.

Hot. Lord *Mortimer*, and coosin *Glendower*, wil you sit downe?
And vncle *Worcester*; a plague vpon it, I haue forgot the Map.

Glen. No, heere it is; sit coosin *Percy*, sit good coosin *Hotspur*;
for by that name, as often as *Lancaster* doth speake of you, his
checke lookes pale, and with a rising sigh hee wisheth you in
Heauen.

Hot. And you in Hell, as oft as hee heares *Owen Glendower*
spoke of.

Glen. I cannot blame him; at my natiuitie,
The front of Heauen was full of fire shapes;
Of burning Cressets: and at my birth,
The frame and foundation of the Earth
Shak'd like a Coward.

Hot. Why so it would haue done at the same season, if your
mothers Cat had but kitned, though your selfe had neuer beene
borne.

Glen. I say, the Earth did shake when I was borne.

Hot. And I say, the Earth was not of my minde,
If you suppose, as fearing you, it shooke.

Glen. The Heauens were all on fire, the Earth did tremble.

Hot. Oh, then the Earth shooke to see the Heauens on fire,
And not in feare of your Natiuitie:
Diseased Nature oftentimes breakes forth
In strange eruptions, and the teeming Earth,
Is with a kinde of Collicke pincht and vext,
By the imprisoning of vnruely Winde
Within her wombe, which for enlargement struiuing,
Shakes the old Beldame Earth; and toples downe
Steeple, and mosse-growne Towers. At your Birth
Our Grandam Earth, hauing this distemperature,
In passion shooke.

Glen. Coosin, of many men
I doe not beare these crossings: giue me leaue
To tell you once againe, that at my Birth,
The front of Heauen was full of fierie shapes,
The Goats ranne from the Mountaines; and the Heardes
Were strangely clamorous to the frightened Fields,

These

Henry the Fourth.

These signes haue markt me extraordinarie,
And all the courses of my life doe shew,
I am not in the roll of common men:
Where is the liuing, clipt in with the Sea,
That chides the Banks of *England, Scotland, and Wales,*
Which calls me pupill, or hath read to me,
And bring him out that is but Womans sonne,
Can trace me in the tedious wayes of Art,
And hold me pace in deepe experiments.

Hot. I thinke there's no man speaks better *Welsh*,
Ile to dinner.

Mor. Peace coosen *Percy*, you will make him mad.

Glen. I can call Spirits from the vally deepe.

Hot. Why, so can I, or so can any man:

But will they come, when you do call for them?

Glen. Why, I can teach thee coosen, to command the Diuel.

Hot. And I can teach thee coosen to shame the Diuell,

By telling truth. Tell truth, and shame the Diuell.

If thou haue power to raise him, bring him hither,

And Ile be sworne, I haue power to shame him hence.

Oh while you liue, tell truth, and shame the Diuell.

Mor. Come, come no more of this vnprofitable chat.

Glen. Three times hath *Henry Bullingbrooke* made head

Against my power, thrice from the bankes of *Wye*,

And Sandy bottom'd *Seuerne* haue I sent him

Bootles home, and weather-beaten backe.

Hot. Home without Bootes, and in foule weather too?

How scapes he agues in the diuels name?

Glen. Come, here is the Map, shall we diuide our right,

According to our threefold order tane?

Mor. The *Arch-deacon* hath deuided it

Into three limits, very equally:

England from *Trent*, and *Seuerne* hicherto,

By South and East, is to my part assignde,

All Westward *Wales* beyond the *Seuerne* shore,

And all the fertile land within that bound

To *Owen Glendower*: and deare coose, to you

The remnant Northward, lying off from *Trent*,

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And our indentures tripartite are drawne
Which being sealed interchangeably,
(A busines that this night may execute:)
To morrow coosen *Percy* you and I
And my good Lord of *Worcester* will set forth,
To meet your father and the Scottish power,
As is appointed vs at *Shrewsbury*.
My father *Glendower* is not ready yet;
Nor shall we need his helpe these foure teene daies;
Within that space, you may haue drawne together
Your tenants, friends and neighbouring Gentlemen.

Glen. A shorter time shall send me to you Lords,
And in my conduct shall your Ladies come,
From whome you now must steale and take no leaue,
For there will be a world of water shed,
Vpon the parting of your wiues and you.

Hot. Me thinks my moiety *North* from *Burton* heere
In quantity equals not one of yours:
See, how this riuer comes me cranking in,
And cuts me from the best of all my land,
A huge halfe Moone, a monstrous scantle out:
He haue the currant in this place damnd vp,
And here the smug and siluer *Trent* shall run,
In a new channell, faire and euenly,
It shall not wind with such a deepe indent
To rob me of so rich a bottome here.

Glen. Not wind? it shall, it must, you see it doth.

Mor. Yea, but marke how he beares his course, & runs me
vp, with like aduantage on the other side, gelding the opposed
continent, as much, as on the other side it takes from you.

Wor. Yea, but a little charge will trench him here,
And on this Northside, win this cape of land
And then he runs straight and euen.

Hot. He haue it so, a little charge will do it.

Glen. He not haue it alfred.

Hot. Will not you?

Glen. No, nor you shall not.

Hot. Who shall say menay?

Henry the Fourth.

Glen. Why, that will I.

Hot. Let me not vnderstand you then, speak it in *Welsh*.

Glen. I can speake *English* Lord, as well as you,
For I was traind vp in the *English* Court,
Where, being but yong, I framed to the Harpe
Many an *English* dittie, louely well,
And gaue the tongue a helpfull ornament:
A vertue that was neuer seene in you,

Hot. Marry, and I am glad of it with all my heart;
I had rather be a kitten and cry mew,
Then one of these same miter ballet-mongers:
I had rather heare a brazen cansticke turnd,
Or a dry wheele grate on the axele-tree,
And that would set my teeth nothing an edge,
Nothing so much as minsing Poetry:
T'is like the forc't gate of a shuffling nag.

Glen. Come you shall haue *Trent* turnd.

Hot. I doe not care, Ile giue thrice so much land
To any well deseruing friend:
But in the way of bargaine; marke yeme:
Ile cauill on the ninth part of a haire.
Are the indentures drawne? shall we begone?

Glen. The Moone shines faire, you may away by night:
Ile haue the writer, and withall,
Breake with your wiues, of your departure hence,
I am afraid my daughter will run mad,
So much she doteth on her *Mortimer*,

Exit.

Mor. Fie, cosen *Percy*, how you crosse my father.

Hot. I cannot chuse, sometime he angers me
With telling me of the Moldwarp and the Ant,
Of the dreamer *Merlin*, and his Prophecies:
And, of a dragon and a finlesse fish,
A clip-wingd Griffin, and a moulted Rauens,
A couching Lion, and a ramping Cat,
And such a deale of Skimble skamble stuffe,
As puts me from my faith. I tell you what,
He held me last night, at least, nine houres,
In reckoning vp the feuerall diuels names,

The Historie of

That were his Lackies : I cried hum, and well, go to,
But markt him not a word; O, he is as tedious
As a tyred Horse, a rayling Wife,
Worse then a smokie House. I had rather liue
With Cheefe and Garlike in a Windmill farre,
Then feed on cates, and haue him talke to me,
In any Summer-house in Chriltendome.

Mor. In faith he was a worthy Gentleman,
Exceeding well read and profited
In strange concealements, valiant as a Lion,
And wondrous affable, and as bountifull
As Mines of *India*: shall I tell you, Coosen,
He holds your temper in a high respect,
And curbs himselfe, euen of his naturall scope,
When you come crosse his humor, faith he does :
I warrant you, that man is not alieue.
Might so haue tempted him, as you haue done,
Without the tast of danger and reproofe:
But doe not vse it oft, let me intreat you.

Wor. In faith, my Lord, you are too wilfull blame,
And since your comming hither, haue done enough
To put him quite besides his patience:
You must needs learne, Lord, to amend this fault,
Though sometimes it shew greatnesse, courage, blood,
And thats the dearest grace it renders you :
Yet oftentimes it doth present harsh rage,
Defect of manners, want of gouernement,
Pride, hautinesse, opinion, and disdaine;
The least of which haunting a Nobleman,
Loseth mens hearts, and leaues behind a stain.
Vpon the beautie of all parts besides,
Beguiling them of commendation.

Hot. Well, I am schoold, Good-manners be your speed,
Heere come our wiues, and let vs take our leaues.

Enter Glendower, with the Ladies.

Mor. This is the deadly spight that angers me,
My Wife can speake no *English*, I no *Welsh*.

Glen. My Daughter weepes, sheele not part with you,

Sheele

Henry the Fourth.

Sheele be a souldier too, sheele to the warres.

Mor. Good father tell her, that she, and my Aunt Percy,
Shall follow in your conduct speedily.

*Glendower speakes to her in welsh, and she answeres
him in the same.*

Glen. She is desperat heere,
A peeuishe selfe-wil'd harlotry, one that no perswasion can doe
good vpon.

The Lady speakes in Welsh.

Mor. I vnderstand thy lookes, that pretty welsh,
Which thou powrest downe from these swelling heauens,
I am too perfect in, and but for shame
In such a pailey should I answer thee.

The Lady againe in Welsh.

Mor. I vnderstand thy kisses, and thou mine,
And thats a feeling disputation:
But I will neuer be a truant loue,
Till I haue learn'd thy language, for thy tongue
Makes *Welsh* as sweet as ditties highly pend,
Sung by a faire Queene in a Summers bowre,
With rauishing diuision to her lute.

Glen. Nay, if thou melt, then will she runne mad.

The Lady speakes againe in Welsh.

Mor. O, I am ignorance it selfe in this.

Glen. She bids you on the wanton rushes lay you downe,
And rest your gentle head vpon her lap,
And she will sing the song that pleaseth you,
And on your eyelids crowne the God of sleepe,
Charming your blood with pleasing heauinesse,
Making such difference betwixt wake and sleepe,
As is the difference betwixt day and night,
The houre before the heavenly haruest teeme
Begins his golden progresse in the East.

Mor. With all my heart Ile sit and heare her sing,
By that time will our booke I thinke be drawne.

Glen. Do so, and those Musitions that shall play to you,
Hang in the ayre a thousand Leagues from thence,
And straight they shall be here, sit and attent.

The Historie of

Hot. Come *Kate*, thou art perfect in lying downe,
Come, quicke, quicke, that I may lay my head in thy lap.

La. Go, ye giddy goose.

The Musicke playes.

Hot. Now I perceiue the diuell vnderstands *Welsh*.
And 'tis no maruell he is so humorous,
Birlady he is a good musician.

Lady. Then would you be nothing but musically,
For you are altogether gouerned by humors:
Lie still ye thiefe, and heare the Lady sing in *Welsh*.

Hot. I had rather heare *Lady*, my breech howle in *Irish*.

La. Would 'st haue thy head broken?

Hot. No.

La. Then be still.

Hot. Neither, 'tis a womans fault.

La. Now God helpe thee.

Hot. To the *Welsh* Ladies bed.

La. What's that?

Hot. Peace, she sings.

Heere the Lady sings a welsh song.

Hot. Come, Ile haue your song too.

La. Not mine in good sooth.

Hot. Not yours in good sooth? Hart you sweare like a com-
fitmakers wife, not you in good sooth, & as true as I liue, and
as God shall mend me, and as sure as day:

And giuest such sarcenet surety for thy othes,

As if thou neuer walkst further then *Finsbury*:

Sweare me *Kate*, like a Ladie as thou art,

A good mouth filling oath, and leaue in sooth,

And such protest of pepper ginger-bread,

To veluet gards, and Sunday-Cittizens.

Come, sing.

La. I will not sing.

Hot. Tis the next way to turne taylor, or be red-brest teacher
and the indentures be drawne, jle away within these 2. hours,
and so come in when ye will.

Exit.

Glen. Come, come, Lord *Mortimer*, you are slow,
As *Hot* Lord *Percy* is on fire to goe.

By

Henry the Fourth.

By this our Booke is drawne, weele but seale,
And then to horse immediately.

Mor. With all my heart.

Exeunt.

Enter the King, Prince of Wales, and other.

King. Lords, giue vs leaue, the Prince of *Wales*, and I,
Must haue some priuate conference, but be neere at hand,
For we shall presently haue need of you. *Exeunt Lords.*

I know not whether God will haue it so,
For some displeasing seruice I haue done,
That in his secret doome, out of my blood,
Hee'le breed reuengement and a scourge for me:
But thou dost in the passages of life,
Make me belecue, that thou art onely mark't
For the hot vengeance, and the rod of Heauen,
To punish my misreadings. Tell me else
Could such inordinate and low desires,
Such poore, such bare, such lewd, such meane attempts,
Such barren pleasures, rude societie,
As thou art matcht withall, and grafted to,
Accompany the greatnes of thy blood,
And hold their leuell with thy Princely heart?

Prin. So please your Maiestie, I would I could
Quit all offences with as cleare excuse,
As well as I am doubtlesse I can purge
My selfe of many I am charg'd withall:
Yet such extenuation let me beg,
As in reproofe of many tales deuise,
Which oft the eare of greatnes needs must heare
By smiling Pick-thankes, and base newes-mongers,
I may for some things true, wherein my youth
Hath faulty wandred, and irregular,
Find pardon on my true submission.

King. God pardon thee, yet let me wonder *Harry*,
At thy affections, which doe hold a wing
Quite from the flight of all thy ancestors:
Thy place in Counsell thou hast rudely lost,
Which by thy yonger Brother is supplide;
And art almost an alien to the hearts

The Historie of

Of all the Court and Princes of my bloud,
The hope and expectaion of thy time,
Is ruin'd, and the soule of euery man
Prophetically do fore-thinke thy fall:
Had I so lauish of my presence beene,
So common hackneid in the eies of men,
So stale and cheap to vulgar company,
Opinion that did helpe me to the Crowne
Had still kept loyall to possession,
And left me in reputeles banishment.
A fellow of no marke nor likelihood,
By being seldome seene, I could not stir
But like a Comet I was wondred at,
That men would tell their Children, This is he :
Others would say, where, which is *Bullingbrooke* :
And then I stole all curtesie from heauen,
And drest my selfe in such humilitie,
That I did plucke allegiance from mens harts:
Loud shoutes and salutations from their mouthes
Euen in the presence of the crowned King.
Thus I did keepe my person fresh and new,
My presencelike a robe pontificall,
Ne're seene, but wondred at, and so my state
Seldome, but sumptuous, shewed like a feast
And wan by rarenes such solemnity.
The skipping king, he ambled vp and downe,
With shallow iesters, and rash bawin wits,
Soone kindled, and soone burnt, carded his state,
Mingled his royalty with *Carping* fooles;
Had his great name prophaned with their scornes,
And gaue his countenance against his name,
To laugh at gybing Boyes, and stand the push
Of euery bearded vaine comparatiue
Grew a companion to the common streets,
Enforc't himselfe to popularity,
That being daily swallowed by mens eyes,
They surfettted with hony, and began to loath
The tast of sweetnes, whereof a little,

More

Henrie the Fourth.

More then a little, is by much too much.
So when he had occasion to be seene,
He was, but as the Cuckow is in Iune,
Heard, not regarded: seene but with such eyes
As sicke and blunted with community,
Afford no extraordinarie gaze.
Such as is bent on sun-like Maiesty,
When it shines seldome in admiring eyes,
But rather drowzd, and hung their eye-lids downe
Slept in his face, and rendred such aspect
As cloudy men vse to doe to their aduersaries,
Being with his presence, glutted, gorgde, and full.
And in that very line, *Harry* standest thou,
For, thou hast lost thy Princely priuiledge,
with vile participation, Not an eye
But is a weary of thy common sight,
Saue mine, which hath desired to see thee more,
Which now doth that I would not haue it done,
Make blind it selfe with foolish tenderneffe.

Prin. I shall hereafter, my thrice gracious Lord
Be more my selfe. *King.* For all the world
As thou art to this howre, was *Richard* then,
When I from *France* set foot at *Rauenspargh*,
And euen as I was then, is *Percy* now:
Now by my scepter and my soule to boote,
He hath more worthy interest to the state,
Then thou, the shadow of succession,
For of no right nor colour like to right.
He doth fill fieldes with Harnes in the Realme,
Turns head against the Lyons armed lawes,
And being no more indebt to yeares, then thou
Leadst ancient Lords, and reuerent Bishops on,
To bloody battels, and to brusing armes,
What neuer dying honor hath he got,
Against renouued *Douglas*? whose high deedes,
Whose hot incurSIONS and great name in Armes,
Holds from all Souldiers chiefe maiority,
And military title capitall.

The Historie of

Through all the kingdomes that acknowledge Christ,
Thrice hath the *Hotspur* Mars in swathing clothes,
This infant warriour, in his enterprises,
Discomfited great *Douglas*, tane him once,
Enlarged him, and made a friend of him,
To fill the mouth of deepe defiance vp,
And shake the peace and safety of our throne.
And what say you to this? *Percy, Northumberland,*
The Archbishops Grace of Yorke, *Douglas, Mortimer,*
Capitulate against vs, and are vp.
But, wherefore do I tell these newes to thee?
Why, *Harry* do I tell thee of my foes,
Which art my neer'st and deerest enemy?
That thou art like enough through vassall feare,
Base inclination, and the start of spleene,
To fight against me vnder *Percy*s pay,
To dog his heeles, and curtsie at his frownes,
To shew how much thou art degenerate.

Prin. Doe not thinke so, you shall not finde it so,
And God forgiue them, that so much haue swayde:
Your Maiesties good thoughts away from me:
I will redeeme all this on *Percy*s head;
And in the closing of some glorious day
Be bould to tell you that I am your sonne,
When I will weare a garment all of bloud,
And staine my fauours in a bloody maske,
Which washt away, shall scoure my shame with it.
And that shall be the day, when ere it lights
That this same child of honour and renowne,
This gallant *Hotspur*, this all-prayfed knight,
And your vnthought of *Harry* chance to meet,
For euery honor sitting on his helme,
Would they were multitudes, and one my head
My shame redoubled. For the time will come
That I shall make this Northerne youth exchange
His glorious deedes for my indignities,
Percy is but my Factor, good my Lord
To engrosse my glorious deedes on my behalfe.

Henry the Fourth.

And I will call him to so strict account,
That he shall render euery glory vp,
Yea, euen the slightest worship of his time,
Or I will teare the reckoning from his heart,
This in the name of God I promise here,
The which if he be pleas'd I shall performe
I do beseech your Maiestie may salue,
The long growne woundes of my intemperance:
If not, the end of life cancels all bands,
And I will die an hundred thousands deaths,
Ere breake the smallest parcell of this vow.

King. A hundred thousand rebels die in this,
Thou shalt haue charge, and soueraine trust herein,
How now good *Blunt*? thy lookes are full of speed.

Enter Blunt.

Blunt. So hath the buisines that I come to speake of.
Lord *Martimer* of Scotland hath sent ward,
That *Douglas* and the *English* rebels met,
The eleuenth of this moneth, at *Shrewsburie*:
A mighty and a fearefull head they are,
(If promises be kept on euery hand)
As eu' offered foule play in a state.

King. The Earle of *Westmerland* set fourth to day,
With him my soone Lord *John* of *Lancaster*,
For this aduertisement is fīue dayes old,
On wednesday nex; *Harry* thou shalt set forward:
On Thursday, we our selues will march. Our meeting
Is *Bridgenorth*, and *Harry* you shall march
Throug *Glocester-shire*, by which account
Our buisines valued some twelue dayes hence
Our generall forces at *Bridgenorth* shall meete.
Our hands are full of buisines, let's away,
Aduantage feedes him fat, while men delay.

Exeunt.

Enter Falstaffe and Bardoll.

Fal. *Bardoll*, am I not fallen away vilely since this last action?
doe I not bate? doe I not dwindle? why my skin hangs about
me like an old Laies loose gowne. I am withered like an olde
apple Iohn. Well, ile repent, and that sodainely, while I am in

The Historie of

Some liking, I shall be out of heart shortly, & then I shall haue no strength to repent. And I haue not forgotten what the inside of a Church is made of, I am a Pepper corne, a brewers horse, the inside of a Church. Company, villanous company hath beene the spoyle of me.

Bar. *Sir Iohn*, you are so fretfull, you cannot liue long.

Fal. Why there is it; come, sing me a bawdy Song, make me merry: I was as vertuously giuen, as a Gentleman need to bee, vertuous enough, swore little, dic'd not aboue seauen times a weeke, went to Bawdy house not aboue once in a quarter of an house, paid money that I borrowed there or foure times, liued well, and in good compasse: and now I liue out of all order, out of compasse.

Bar. Why, you are so fatte, *Sir Iohn*, that you must needes be out of all compasse: out of all reasonable compasse, *Sir Iohn*.

Fal. Doe thou amend thy face, & Ile amend my life: thou art our Admirall, thou bearest the Lanterne in the Poope, but t'is in the Nose of thee, thou art the King of the burning lampe.

Bar. Why *Sir Iohn*, my face does you no harme.

Fal. No, Ile be sworne, I make as good vse of it, as many a man doth of a Deaths head, or a *memento mori*. I neuer see thy face but I thinke vpon hell fire, and *Dines* that liued in Purple: for there he is in his Robes burning, burning. If thou wert any way giue to vertue, I would sweare by thy face: my oath should be, *By this fire, that's Gods Angel*: But thou art altogether giue ouer; and wert indeede, but for the light in thy face, the Sunne of vtter darkenesse. VWhen thou runst vp *Gads-hill* in the night, to catch my Horse, if I did not thinke that thou hadst been an *Ignis fatuus*, or a bal of wild-fire there's no purchase in Money. O thou art a perpetuall Tryumph, and euermore Bone-fire-light, thou hast saued me at thousand Markes in Linkes and Torches, walking with thee in the night betwixt *Tauerne* & *Tauerne*: But the Sacke that thou hast drunke me, would haue bought me Lights as good cheape, as the dearest Chandlers in *Europe*. I haue maintained that Salamander of yours, with fire, any time this two and thirtie yeares: God reward me for it.

Bar. Zloud, I would my face were in your belly.

Fal. Godamercy, so should I be sure to be heart-burnd.

Henry the Fourth.

How now, dame *Partlet* the Hen, haue you enquired yet who pickt my Pocket? *Enter host.*

Host. Why *Sir Iohn*, what do you thinke, *Sir Iohn*? do you think I keepe theeues in my house, I haue searcht, I haue enquired, so haz my husband, man by man, boy by boy, seruant by seruant: the tigt of a haire was neuer lost in my house before.

Fal. Yelie *Hostesse*, *Bardol* was shau'd, and lost many a haire: and Ile be sworne my Pocket was pickt: go to, you are a woman, goe.

Host. Who I? I defie thee: Gods light, I was neuer cald so in mine owne house before.

Fal. Go to, I know you well enough.

Host. No, *Sir Iohn*, you doe not know me, *Sir Iohn*; I know you *Sir Iohn*, you owe me money *Sir Iohn*, & now you picke a quarrell to beguile me of it: I bought you a dozen of Shirtes to your backe.

Fal. Doulas, filthy Doulas: I haue giuen them away to Bakers wiues, they haue made Boulters of them.

Host. Now as I am a true woman, Holland of viij. s. an ell: you owe money heere besides, *Sir Iohn*, for your diet, and by drinkings, and mony lent you, xxiiij. pound.

Fal. He had his part of it, let him pay.

Host. He? alas he is poore, he hath nothing.

Fal. How; poore? looke vpon his face: What call you rich? let them coine his Nose, let them coine his cheekes, Ile not pay a denyer: what, will you make a younker of me? shall I not take mine ease in mine Inne, but I shall haue my pocket pickt? I haue lost a seale Ring of my Grandfathers worth fortie marke.

Host. O Iesu, I haue heard the *Prince* tell him, I know not how oft, that that Ring was Copper.

Fal. How? the *Prince* is a Iaske, a sneak-cup: Zbloud and hee were here, I would cudgel him like a Dog, if he would say so.

Enter the Prince marching, and Falstaffe meets him

Playing on his Trunchion like a Fife.

Fal. How now Lad, is the wind in that doorey faith, Must we all march?

Bar. Yea, two and two; Newgate fashion.

Host. My Lord, I pray you heare me.

The Historie of

Prin. What saist thou, *Mistris quickly*? how dow thy husband?
I loue him well, he is an honett man.

Host. Good my Lord heare me.

Fal. Prethee let her alone and list to me.

Prin. What saist thou *Iacke*?

Fal. The other night I fell a sleepe here behind, the Arras, & had my pocket pickt, this house is turnde bawdy-house, they picke pockers.

Prin. what didst thou loose, *Iacke*?

Fal. Wilt thou belecue me, *Hal*? three or foure bonds of forty pounds a peece, and a scale Ring of my grandfathers.

Prin. A trifle, some eight penny matter.

Host. So I told him my Lord, and I said, I heard your Grace say so: and my Lord he speakes most vilely of you, like a foule mouth'd man, as he is, and said, he would cudgell you.

Prin. What he did not?

Host. Ther's neither faith, truth, nor womanhood in me else.

Fal. There's no more faith in thee, then a stued Prune; nor no more truth in thee, then in a drawne Fox: and for Womanhood, Mayd-marian may be the Deputies wife of the ward to thee. Goe you thing, goe.

Host. Say, what thing, what thing?

Fal. What thing? why, a thing to thanke God on.

Host. I am no thing to thanke God on, I would thou shouldst know it? I am an honest mans wife, and setting thy Knight-hood aside, thou art a knaue to call me so.

Fal. Setting thy Woman-hood aside, thou art a beast, to say ctherwise.

Host. Say, what beast, thou knaue thou?

Fal. What beast? why an Otter.

Prin. An Otter, *Sir Iohn*? why an Otter?

Fal. Why? shee's neither fish nor flesh; a man knowes not where to haue her.

Host. Thou art an vniust man in saying so; thou, or any man knowes where to haue me, thou knaue tbhu.

Prin. Thou sayst true *Hostesse*, and hee slaunders thee most grosely.

Host. So hee doth you, my Lord, and said this other day,

You

Henry the Fourth.

You ought him a thousand pound.

Prin. Sarra, doe I owe you a thousand pound?

Fal. A thousand poud *Hal*? a Million: thy loue is worth a Million: thou owest me thy loue.

Hest. Nay, my Lord, hee called you *Iacke*, and said hee would cudgell you.

Fal. Did I, *Bardoll*?

Bar. Indeed, *Sir Iohn*, you said so.

Fal. Yea, if he said my Ring was Copper.

Prin. I say tis Copper: darst thou be as good as thy word now?

Fal. Why *Hal*? thou knowst, as thou art but a man, I dare, but as thou art *Prince*, I feare thee, as I feare the roaring of the Lyons whelpe.

Prin. And why not as the Lyon?

Fal. The King himselte, is to be feared as the Lyon: doest thou thinke Ile feare thee, as I feare thy Father? nay, and I doe, I pray God my Girdle breake.

Prin. O, if it should, how would thy guts fall about thy knees? But sarra, there's no roome for Faith, Truth, nor Honesty, in this bosome of thine; it is all filde vp with Guttes, and Midriffe: Charge an honest woman with picking thy pocket? Why thou horeson impudent imboist rascall, if there were any thing in thy pocket, but tauern reckonings, memorandoms of Bawdy houles, and one poore peniworth of Sugar-candie to make thee long-winded: if thy pocket were inricht with any other iniuries but these, I am a villaine; and yet you will stand to it, you will not pocket vp wrong: art thou not ashamed?

Fal. Doest thou heare *Hal*? thou knowest in the state of innocencie, *Adam* fell: & what should poore *Iacke Falstaffe* do in the daies of villany? thou seest, I haue more flesh then another man, & therefore more frailty, you confesse then you pickt my pocket.

Prin. It appeares so by the story.

Fal. Hostesse, I forgiue thee: goe make ready breakfast, loue thy Husband, looke to thy Seruants, cherish thy Ghestes, thou shalt find me tractable to any honest reason: thou seest I am pacified still: nay, I prethee be gone.

Exit Hostesse.

Now *Hal*, to the newes at Court for the robbery, lad? how is that answered?

The Historie of

Prin. O my sweet beefe, I must still be good Angell to thee, the mony is paid backe againe.

Fal. O, I doe not like that paying backe, tis a double labour.

Prin. I am good friends with my father, and may do any thing.

Fal. Rob me the Exchequer the first thing thou doest, and do it with vnwasht hands too.

Bar. Do my Lord.

Prin. I haue Procured thee *Iack* a charge of foot.

Fal. I would it had beene of horse. Where shall I find one that can steale well? O for a fine theefe of the age of xxii. or there about: I am hainously vnprovidid. Well, God beethanked for these rebels, they offend none but the vertuous, I laud them, I prayse them.

Prince. Bardoll.

Bar. My Lord.

Prin. Goe beare this letter to Lord *John of Lancaster*, To my brother *John*: this to my Lord of *Westmerlands*. Go, *Peto*, to horse for thou and I

Haue thirty miles yet to ride ere dinner time:

Iacke meete me to morrow in the Temple hall,

At two a clocke in the afternoone,

There shalt thou know thy charge, and their receiue

Mony and order for their furniture.

The land is burning, *Percy* stands on high,

And either they or we must lower lie.

Fal. Rare words! braue world. *Hostes*, my breakefast come, Oh, I could wish this *Tauerne* were my drum.

Exeunt.

Enter Hotspur, Worcester and Douglas.

Hot. Well said, my noble *Scot*, if speaking truth

In this fine age were not through flattery,

Such attribution should the *Douglas* haue,

As not a Souldier of this seasons stampe,

Should go so generall currant through the world:

By God I cannot flatter, I desie

The tongues of soothers, but a brauer place

In my hearts loue hath no man then your selfe.

Nay taske me to my word, approue me Lord.

Dom. Thou art the king of honour,

No man so potent breathes vpon the ground,

But I will beard him.

Enter one with letters.

Hot.

Henrie the Fourth.

Hot. Do so, and t'is well: what letters haue you there, I can but thanke you.

Mess. These letters come from your father.

Hot. Letters from him? why comes he not himselfe?

Mess. He cannot come, my Lord, he is grieuous sicke.

Hot. Zounds, how haz he the leisure to be sicke
In such a iustling time? who leades his power?
Vnder whose gouernement come they along?

Mess. His letters beares his mind, not I his mind.

Wor. I prethee tell me, doth he keepe his bed?

Mess. He did, my Lord, foure dayes ere I set forth,
And at the time of my departure thence,
He was much feard by his Phisition.

Wor. I would the state of time had first bin whole,
Ere he by sicknesse had bin visited:
His health was neuer better worth then now.

Hot. Sicke now, droope now, this sicknesse doth infect
The very life-bloud of our enterprise,
T'is catching hither, euen to our campe:
He writes me here, that inward sicknesse,
And that his friends by deputation
Could not so soone be drawne, nor did he thinke it meete,
To lay so dangerous and deare a trust
On any soule remou'd, but on his owne,
Yet doth he giue vs bold aduertisement,
That with our small coniunction, we should on,
To see how fortune is dispos'd to vs:
For, as he writes, there is no quailing now,
Because the King is certainly posselt
Of all our purposes: what say you to it?

Wor. Your fathers sicknesse is a maine to vs.

Hot. A perilous gash, a very limme lopt off,
And yet, in faith, it is not his present want
Seemes more then we shall find it. Were it good,
To set the exact wealth of all our states,
All at one cast? to set so rich a maine,
On the nice hazzard of one doubtfull houre,
It were not good, for therein should we read

The Historie of

The very bottome and the soule of Hope,
The very list, the very vtmost bound
Of all our Fortunes.

Dowg. Fayth, and so we should,
Where now remaines a sweete reuerfion,
We may boldly spend vpon the hope of what t'is to come in,
A comfort of rstirement liues in this.

Hot. A randeuous, a home to fly vnto,
If that the Diuell and Mischance looke big
Vpon the maydenhead of our affaires.

Wor. But yet I would your Father had been heere :
The qualitie and heire of our attempt
Brookes no diuision, it will be thought
By some, that know not why he is away,
That wisdome, loyalty, and meere dislike
Of our proceedings, kept the Earle from hence.
And thinke, how such an apprehension
May turne the tide of fearefull faction,
And breed a kind of question in our cause:
For, well you know, we of the offering side,
Must keepe aloofe from strict arbitrement,
And stop all sight-holes, euery loope, from whence
The eye of reason may prie in vpon vs :
This absence of your Father drawes a curtaine,
That shewes the ignorant, a kind of feare
Before not dreamt of.

Hot. You straine too farre.
I rather of his absence make this vse,
It lends a lustre and more great opinion,
A larger dare to your greate enterprize,
Then if the Earle were heere : for men must thinke,
If we without his helpe, can make a head
To push against the Kingdome, with his helpe,
We shall, or turne it topsie turuy downe:
Yet all goes well, yet all our ioyns are whole.

Dowg. As heart can thinke, there is not such a word.
Spoke of in Scotland, as this deame of feare.

Enter Sir Rich, Vernon.

Hot

Henry the Fourth.

Hot. My coosen *Vernon*, welcome by my soule.

Ver. Pray God my newes be worth a welcome, Lord.
The Earle of *Westmerland*, seauen thousand strong,
Is marching hitherwards, with Prince *John*.

Hot. No harme, what more?

Ver. And further, I haue learnd,
The King himselfe in person hath set forth,
Or hitherwards intended speedily,
With strong and mighty preparation.

Hot. He shall be welcome too; Where is his Sonne,
The nunble-footed mad cap, *Prince of Wales*,
And his Cumrades, that dast the world aside,
And bid it passe?

Ver. All furnisht? all in Armes?
All plump like *Eltriges*, that with the winde
Bayted like *Eagles*, hauing lately bath'd,
Glittring in golden Coates like Images,
As full of spirit as the moneth of May,
And gorgious as the Sunne at *Midsummer*;
Wanton as youthfull Goates, wild as young Bule:
I saw young *Harry* with his Beuer on,
His Cushes on his thighes, gallantly armde,
Rise from the ground like feathered *Mercury*,
And vaulted with such ease into his seate,
As if an Angell dropt downe from the Cloudes,
To turn and winde a fiery *Pegasus*,
And witch the world with noble Horse-manship.

Hot. No more, no more, worse then the Sunne in March.
This prayse doth nourish Agues; let them come,
They come like Sacrifices in their trim,
And to the fire-eyde mayde of smokie warre,
All hot and bleeding, will we offer them:
The mayled *Mars* shall on his Altar sit
Vp to the eares in bloud. I am on fire
To heare this rich repizall is so nigh:
And yet not ours. Come, let me take my Horse,
Who is to beare me like a thunder-boult,
Against the bosome of the *Prince of Wales*,

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Harry to Harry, shal not Horse to Horse
Meete, and nere part, till one drop downe a coarſe :
Oh, that *Glendower* were come.

Ver. There is more newes,
I learned in *Worcester*, as I rode along,
He cannot draw his power this fourteene dayes.

Dang. Thats the worst tydings, that I heare of yet.

Wor. I by my fayth that beares a frosty ſound.

Hot. What may the Kings whole battell reach vnto ?

Ver. To thirtie thousand.

Hot. Fortie let it be.

My Father and *Glendower* being both away,
The powers of vs, may serue ſo great a day.

Come, let vs take a Muſter ſpeedily,
Doomes day is neere, die all, die merrily.

Dang. Talke not of dying, I am out of feare
Of death or deaths hand, for this one haife yeare.

Exeunt.

Enter Falſtaffe and Bardol.

Fal. *Bardol*, get thee before to *Conentry*, fill mee a bottle of
Sacke, our Souldiers shall march through ; Weele to *Sutton-cop-*
hill to night.

Bar. Will you giue me money Captaine ?

Falſ. Lay out, lay out.

Bar. This bottle makes an Angell.

Falſ. And it doe take it for thy labour, and if it make twentie,
take them all, Ile anſwere the coynage ; bid my Lieutenant *Peto*
meet me at Townes end.

Bar. I will Captaine : farewell.

Exit.

Falſ. If I be aſhamed of my Souldiers, I am a ſowſt Gurnet ; I
haue miſuſed the Kings preſſe damnably. I haue got in exchange
of 150. Souldiers, 300, and odde pounds. I preſſe me none but
good Houſholders, Yeomens ſonnes, inquire me out contracted
Batchelers, ſuch as had ben aſkt twice on the Banes ; ſuch a com-
moditie of warme ſlaues, as had as leiuie heare the Diuell as a
Drumme, ſuch as feare the report of a Caliuer, worſe then a
ſtrook-foole, or a hurt Wild-ducke : I preſt me none but ſuch
Toſts and butter, with hearts in their bellies no bigger then Pins
heads, and they haue bought out their ſeruices : and now, my
whole

Henry the Fourth.

whole charge consistes of Ancients, Corporals, Lieutenants, Gentlemen of Companies, Slaues as ragged as *Lazarus* in the painted Cloath where the Gluttons Dogs licked his Sores : and such as iudeed were neuer Souldiers, but discarded vniust Seruingmen, yonger Sonnes to yonger Brothers, reuoluted Tapsters and Ostlers trade-faine, the Cankers of a calme world, and long peace, times more dishonourable ragged, then an old fac'd Ancient : and such haue I to fill vp the roomes of them as haue bought out their seruices, that you would thinke, that I had a hundred and fittie tottered Prodigals, lately come from Swine-keeping, from eating drasse and huskes. A mad fellow met mee on the way, and tould mee I had vnloaded all the gibbetts, and prest the dead bodies. No eye hath scene such Skar-crowes. Ile not march through *Conentry* with them, that's flat : nay, and the villaines march wide betweene the legs, as if they had Gyues on, for indeed, I had the most of them out of Prison; there's not a Shirt and a halfe in all my company, and the halfe shirt is twoo Napkins tackt togeather, and throwne ouer the shoulders like a Hearalds coate without sleeues; and the Shirt to say the truth, stolne from mine Host of *S. Albones*, or the red-nose Inkeeper of *Damtry* : but that's all one, they'le finde Linnen enough on euery Hedge.

Enter the Prince, and the Lord of Westmerland.

Prin. How now blowne Iacke? how now Quilt?

Fal. What *Hal*? How now madd wag, what a diuell dost thou in *Warwick shire*? My good *L. of Westmerland*, I cry you mercy, I thought your honour had already bin at *Shrewesbury*.

West. Fayth, *Sir Iohn*, t'is more then time, that I were there, and you too; but my powers are there already : the King I can tell you, lookes for vs all; we must away all night.

Fal. Tut, neuer feare tell me, I am as vigilant as a Cat, to steale Creame.

Prin. I thinke to steale Creame indeed, for thy theft hath already made thee butter : but tell me, *Iacke*, whose fellows are these that come after?

Fal. Mine *Hal*, mine.

Prin. I did neuer see such pittifull rascals.

Fal. Tut, tut, good enough to toise, food for powder, food

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for powder, they'll fill a pit as well as better : tush man , mortall men, mortall men.

West. I, but, *Sir Iohn*, mee-thinkes they are exceeding poore and bare, too beggarly.

Fal. Faith, for their pouerty, I know not where they had that, And for their barenenes, I am sure they neuer learnt that of me.

Prin. No ile be sworn, vnlesse you call three fingers on the ribs bare : but sirra, make hast, *Percy* is already in the field. *Exit.*

Fal. What is the King incamp'd?

West. He is *Sir Iohn*, I feare we shall stay too long.

Fal. Well, to the latter end of a Fray, and the beginning of a Feast, fits a dull fighter, and a keene guest. *Exeunt*

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Douglas, and Vernon.

Hot. Weele fight with him to night,

Wor. It may not be.

Dow. You giue him then aduantage.

Ver. Not a whit.

Hot. Why say you so? lookes he not for supply?

Ver. So doe wee.

Hot. His is certaine, ours is dubtfull.

Wor. Good coosen be aduise, stir not to night.

Ver. Do not, my Lord.

Dow. You doe not counsell well:

Then speake it out of feare, and cold heart.

Ver. Do not slaunder, *Douglas*, by my life,

And I dare well maintaine it with my life;

If well respected honor bid me on,

I hold as little counsell with weake feare,

As you my Lord, or any *Scot* that this day liues :

Let it be seene to morrow in the battell, which of vs feares.

Dow. Yea, or to night.

Ver. Content.

Hot. To night say I.

Ver. Come, come, it may not be.

I wonder much being men of such great leading as you are,

That you foresee not what impediments

Drag backe our expedition : certaine Horse

Of my coosen *Vernons* are not yet come vp,

Your

Henry the Fourth.

Your Vncle *Worcesters* Horse came but to day,
And now their pride and mettall is asleepe,
Their courage with hard labour tame and dull,
That not a Horse is halfe the halfe of himselfe.

Hot. So are the Horses of the Enemie,
In generall iourney bated and brought low:
The better part of ours are full of rest.

Wor. The number of the King exceedeth ours:
For Gods sake, *Coosen*, stay till all come in.

The Trumpet sounds a parley. Enter Sir Walter Blunt.

Blunt. I come with gracious offer from the King,
If you vouchsafe me hearing and respect.

Hot. Welcome, sir *Walter Blunt*: and would to God
You were of our determination;
Some of vs loue you well, and euen those some
Enuie your great deseruinges and good name,
Because you are not of our quality,
But stand against vs like an Enemie.

Blunt. And God defend, but still I should stand so,
So long as out of limit and truerule,
You stand against annoynted Maiesty:
But to my charge. The King hath sent to know
The nature of your griefes, and whereupon
You coniure from the breast of ciuill Peace,
Such bold Hostility, teaching his dutious Land
Audaciouscruelty. If that the King
Haue any way your good desertes forgot,
Which he confelleth to be manifold,
He bids you name your griefes, and with all speed,
You shall haue your desires with interest,
And pardon absolute for your selfe, and these,
Herein mis-led by your suggestion.

Hot. The King is kind: and well wee know, the King
Knowes at what time to promise, when to pay:
My Father, my Vncle, and my selfe,
Did giue him that same royalty he weares,
And when he was not sixe and twenty strong,
Sicke in the worldes regard, wretched, and low,

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A poore vnminde'd outlaw sneaking home,
My Father gaue him welcome to the shore :
And when he heard him sweare and vow to God,
He came but to the Duke of *Lancaster*,
To sue his liuery and beg his peace,
With teares of innocency, and termes of zeale :
My father in kind heart and pittie mou'd ;
Swore him assistance and perform'd it too.
Now, when the Lords and Barrons of the Realme,
Perceiu'd *Northumberland* did leane to him,
The more and lesse came in with cap and knee,
Met him in Boroughts, Cities, Villages,
Attend him on bridges, stoo'd in lanes,
Laide gifts before him, proffer'd him their othes,
Gaue him their heires, as pages followed him,
Euen at the heeles, in golden multitudes,
He presently as greatnesse knowes it selfe,
Steps me a little higher then his vow
Made to my father, while his blood was poore,
Vpon the naked shore at *Rauenspurgh*
And now forsooth takes on him to reforme
Some certaine edicts, and some straight decrees
That lay too heauie on the common wealth,
Cries out vpon abuses, seemes to weepe
Ouer his Countries wrongs, and by this face,
This seeming brow of Iustice, did he winne
The hearts of all that he did angle for ?
Proceeded further, cut me off the heads
Of all the fauourites that the absent King
In deputation left behind him here,
When he was personall in the *Irish* warre.

Blunt. Tut, I came not to heare this.

Hot. Then to the poynt.

In short time after, he depos'd the King,
Soone after that, depriu'd him of his life,
And in the necke of that, task't the whole state :
To make that worse, suffred his kinsman *March*,
Who is, if euery owner were plac'd,

Henrie the Fourth.

Indeed his King, to be ingag'd in *Wales*,
There without ransome to lie forfeited,
Disgrac'd me in my happy victories,
Sought to intrap me by intelligence,
Rated my Vncle from the Counsell boord,
In rage dismisde my Father from the Court,
Broke oth on oth, committed wrong on wrong,
And in conclusion, droue vs to seeke out
This head of safetic, and withall to prie
Into his title, the which we finde
Too indirect for long continuance.

Blunt. Shall I returne this answer to the King?

Hot. Not so, *Sir Walter*. Weele withdraw a while:
Goe to the King, and let there be impaund
Some suretie for a safe returne againe,
And in the morning early shall my Vncle
Bring him our purpose, and so fare well.

Blunt. I would you would accept of grace and loue.

Hot. And may be, so we shall.

Blunt. Pray God you doe.

Enter Archbishop of Yorke, and Sir Michell.

Arch. Hie, good *Sir Michell*, beare this sealed Brieve
With winged hast to the Lord *Marshall*,
This to my coosen *Scroope*, and all the rest
To whome they are directed. If you knew
How much they doe import, you would make hast.

Sir Mi. My good Lord, I gesse their tenor.

Arch. Like enough you doe,
Tomorrow, good *Sir Michell*, is a day
Wherein, the fortune of ten thousand men
Must bide the touch: For *Sir* at *Shrewsbury*,
As I am truly giuen to vnderstand,
The King with mighty and quick raysed power,
Meets with Lord *Harry*; and I feare *Sir Michell*,
What with the sicknesse of *Northumberland*,
Whose power was in the first proportion;
And what *Owen Glendowers* absence thence,
Who with them was rated firmly too,

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And comes not in, oucr-rulde by Prophecies,
I feare the power of *Percy* is too weake,
To wage an instant tryall with the King.

Sir M. Why, my good Lord, you need not feare,
There is *Dowglas*, and Lord *Mortimer*,

Arch. No, *Mortimer* is not there.

Sir M. But there is *Mordake*, *Vernon*, *L. Harry Percy*.
And there is my Lord of *Worcester*, and a head
Of gallant warriours, noble Gentlemen.

Arch. And so there is, but yet the King hath drawne
The speciall head of all the land together.
The *Prince of Wales*, Lord *Iohn of Lancaster*,
The noble *Westmerland*, and warlike *Blunt*;
And many mo *Coriuales*, and deare men
Of estimation, and command in armes.

Sir M. Doubt not my Lord, he shalbe well oppos'd.

Arch. I hope no lesse; yet, needfull t'is to feare,
And to preuent the worst, *Sir Michell*, speed:
For if Lord *Percy* thriue not ere the King
Dismiss his power, he meanes to visit vs,
For he hath heard of our confederacie;
And t'is but wisdome to make strong against him:
Therefore make haste, I must goe write againe
To other friends, and so farewell, *Sir Michell.* Exeunt.

Enter the King, *Prince of Wales*, Lord *Iohn of Lancaster*, Earle
of *Westmerland*, sir *Walter Blunt*, and *Falstaffe*.

King. How bloodily the Sunne begins to peere,
Aboue yon buskie hill, the day lookes pale
At his distemperature.

Prinee. The Southerne winde
Doth play the trumpet to his purposes,
And by hollow whistling in the leaues,
Foretels a tempest and a blustering day.

King. Then with the losers let it sympathize,
For nothing can seeme foule to those that winne.

The Trumpet sounds. Enter *Worcester*.

King. How now my Lord of *Worcester*? t'is not well,
That you and I should meet vpon such tearmes,

Henry the Fourth.

As now we meete. You haue deceiude our trust,
And made vs doffe our easie Robes of Peace,
To crush our old vneasielims in vngentle Steele:
This is not well, my Lord, this is not well.
What say you to it? will you againe vnknit
This churlish knot of all abhorred warre?
And moue in that obedient orbe againe,
Where you did giue a faire and naturall light,
And be no more an exhal'd Meteor,
A prodigie of feare, and a portent
Of broched mischief to the vnborne times?

Wor. Heare mee, my Liege:

For mine owne part, I could be well content
To entertaine the lag-end of my life
With quiet houres: For I protest,
I haue not sought the day of this dislike.

King. You haue not sought it: how comes it then?

Fals. Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it.

Prince. Peace, Chewet peace.

Wor. It pleasde your Maiesty to turne your lookes
Of fauour, from my selfe, and all our House;
And yet I must remember you my Lord:
We were the first and dearest of your friends,
For you, my Staffe of office did I breake,
In *Richards* time, and posted day and night,
To meete you on the way, and kisse your hand,
When yet you were in place, and in account
Nothing so strong and fortunate as I;
It was my selfe, my Brother, and his Sonne,
That brought you home, and boldly did out-date
The danger of the time. You swore to vs,
And you did sweare that Oath at *Dancaster*,
That you did nothing of purpose gainst the state,
Nor claime no further, then your new falne right,
The seate of *Gant*, Dukedome of *Lancaster*,
To this, we sweare our ayde: but in short space
It rained downe Fortune showing on your head,
And such a floud of Greatnesse fell on you.

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What with our helpe, what with the absent King,
What with the iniuries of wanton time,
The seeming sufferances that you had borne,
And the contrarious windes that helde the King,
So long in the vnluckie *Irish* Warres,
That all in *England* did repute him dead;
And from his swarme of faire aduantages,
You tooke occasion to be quickly wooed,
To gripe the generall sway into your hand,
Forgot your oath to vs at *Doncaster*;
And being fed by vs, you vs'de vs so,
As that vngentle gull the Cuckowes bird,
Vseth the Sparrow, did oppresse our nest,
Grew by our feeding, to so great a bulke,
That euen our loue durst not come neare your sight
For feare of swallowing: but with nimble wing
We were inforst for safety sake; to flie
Out of your sight, and raise this present head,
Whereby we stand opposed by such meanes
As you your selfe haue forg'd against your selfe,
By vnkind vsage, dangerous countenance,
And violation of all faith and troth
Swore to vs in your younger enterprise.

King. These things indeede, you haue articulate,
Proclaymed at Market crosses, read in Churches,
To face the garment of Rebellion,
With some fine colour that may please the eye
Of sickle changelings, and poore discontents,
Which gape, and rub the Elbow at the newes
Of hurlyburly innouocation:
And neuer yet did insurrection want
Such water colours, to impaint his cause;
Nor muddy Beggars, staruing for a time,
Of pel-mell hauocke and confusion.

Prin. In both your Armes, there is many a soule
Sall pay full dearly for this encounter.
If once they ioyne in tryall, tell your Nephew,
The Prince of *Wales* doth ioyne with all the world

Henry the Fourth.

In praise of *Henry Percy* : by my hopes
This present enterprife set of his head,
I doe not thinke a brauer Gentleman,
More actiue, more valiant, or more valiant yong,
More daring, or more bould, is now aliue,
To grace this latter age with noble deeds :
For my part, I may speake it to my shame,
I haue a trewant been to Chiualue,
And so I heare he doth account me too;
Yet this before my Fathers Maiestie,
I am content that he shall take the ods
Of his great name and estimation,
And will to saue the bloud on either sied,
Try fortune with him in a single fight.

King. And, *Prince of Wales*, so dare we venture thee,
Albeit, considerations infinite
Doe make against it : No good *Worcester*, no,
Weeloue our people well; euen those we loue
That are misled vpon your Coosens Part :
And will they take the offer of our Grace,
Both hee, and they, and you yea euery man,
Shall bee my griend againe, and Ile be his.
So tell your Coosen, and bring me word,
What he will doe. But if he will not yeelds
Rebuke and dread correction waite on vs,
And they shall doe their office. So be gone,
We will not now bee troubled with reply,
We offer faire, take it aduisedly. *Exit Worcester.*

Prin. It will not be accepted, on my life,
The *Douglas* and the *Hotspur* both together,
Are confident against the world in armes.

King. Hence therefore, euery Leader to his charge,
For on their answere will we set on them;
And God befriend vs, as our cause is iust. *Exeunt. manent*

Fal. Hal, if thou see me downe in the Battle *Prim. Fal.*
And bestride me so, tis a point of friendship,

Prim. Nothing but a *Colossus* can doe thee that friendship.
Say thy prayers, and farewell.

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Fals. I would it were bed time *Hal*, and all well.

Prin. Why? thou owest God a death.

Fals. T'is not due yet, I would be loth to pay him before his day: what need I be so forward with him that calls not on mee? Well, t'is no matter, Honour pricks me on: yea but how if Honour prick me off when I come on? how then can Honour set to a leg? no, or an arme? no, or take away the grieve of a wound? no, Honour hath no skill in Surgerie then, no: What is Honour? a Word: What is that word Honour? Aire: a trimme reckoning. Who hath it? he that died a Wednesday? Doth he feele it? no: doth he heare it? no: t'is insensible then? yea, to the dead: but will it not liue with the liuing? no: why? detraction will not suffer it, therefore Ile none of it; Honour is a meere Skutchion; and so ends my Catechisme.

Exit.

Enter Worcester, and sir Richard Vernon.

Wor. O no, my Nephew must not know, *Sir Richard*,
The liberall kind offer of the King.

Ver. T'were best he did.

Wor. Then are we all vndone,
It is not possible, it cannot be,
The King would keepe his word in louing vs,
He will suspect vs still, and find a time,
To ponish this offence in others faults;
Supposition, all our liues, shall be stucke full of eyes,
For Treason is but trusted like the Foxe,
Who neuer so tame, so cherisht, and lockt vp,
Will haue a wilde tricke of his ancesters:
Looke how he can, or sad or merrily:
Interpretation will misquote our lookes,
And we shall feed like Oxen at a stall,
The better cherisht, still the nearer death.
My Nephews trespasse may be well forgot,
It hath the excuse of youth, and heate of blood,
And an adopted name of Priuiledge,
A haire-braind *Hotspur*, gouerned by a spleene,
All his offences liue vpon my head,
And on his Fathers. We did traine him on,
And his corruption being tane from vs.

We

Henry the Fourth.

We as the Spring of all, shall pay for all :

Therefore good Coosen, let not *Harry* know

In any case, the offer of the King. *Enter Hotspur.*

Ver. Deliuier what you wil, Ile say tis so. Here comes your Coos-

Hot. My vnclie is returnd, (sen.

Deliuier vp my Lord of Westmerland;

Vnclie, what newes?

Wor. The King will bid you Battell presently.

Dow. Defie him by the Lord of Westmerland.

Hot. Lord *Dowglas*, go you and tell him so.

Dow. Mary and shall, and very willingly. *Exit Dow.*

Wor. There is no seeming mercy in the King.

Hot. Did you beg any? God forbid.

Wor. I told him gently of your grieuances,
Of his Oath-breaking : which he mended thus,

By now forswearing that he is forsworne,

He calls vs Rebels, Traytors, and will scourge

With haughty armes, this hatefull name in vs. *Enter Dow.*

Dow. Arme Gentlemen, to armes, for I haue throwne
A braue Defiance in King *Henries* teeth;

And *Westmerland* that was ingag'd did beare it,

Which cannot chuse but bring him quickly on.

Wor. The *Prince of Wales* stept forth before the King,
And Nephew, challeng'd you to single fight.

Hot. O, would the quarrell lay vpon our heads,

And that no man might draw short breath to day,

But I and *Harry Monmouth* : tell me, tell me,

How shewd his talking? seem'd it in contempt?

Ver. No, by my soule, I neuer in my life

Did heare a Challenge vrg'd more modestly,

Vnlesse a Brother should a Brother dare

To gentle exercise and prooue of armes.

He gaue you all the duties of a man,

Trimd vp your praises with a princely tongue,

Spoke your deseruings like a Chronicle,

Making you euer better then his praise,

By still dispraising prayse, valued with you :

And which became him like a Prince indeed,

The Historie of

He made a blushing citall of himselfe,
And chid his trewant youth with such a grace,
As if he mastred there a doule spirit
Of teaching, and of learning instantly :
There did he pause, but let me tell the world,
If he out-live the enuie of this day,
England did neuer owe so sweete a hope,
So much misconstrued in his wantonnesse.

Hot. Coosen, I thinke thou art enamored
On his follies : neuer did I heare
Of any Prince so Wild at liberty :
But be he as he will, yet once ere night,
I will imbrace him with a Souldiers arme,
That he shall shrinke vnder my courtesie
Arme, arme with speede, and fellowes Souldiers, friends,
Better consider what you haue to doe,
That I that haue not well the gift of tongue,
Can list your bloud vp with perswasion.

Enter a Messenger.

Mess. My Lord, here are Letters for you.

Hot. I cannot reade them now,
O, Gentlemen the time of life is short,
To spend that shortnesse basely, were too long :
If life did ride vpon a Dials poynt,
Still ending at the arriual of an hower,
And if he liue, we liue to tread on Kings,
If die, braue death, when Princes die with vs,
Now for our Consciencés, the armes is faire,
When the intent for bearing them is iust, *Enter another.*

Mess. My Lord, prepare, the King comes on a pace.

Hot. I thanke him, that he cuts me from my tale :
For I professe not talking, onely this,
Let each man doe his best ; and heare draw I a Sword,
Whose temper I intend to staine
With the best blood thath I can meet withall,
In the aduenture of this perillous day.
Nowe esperance *Percy*, and set on,
Sound all the loftie instruments of warre,
And by that musicke, let vs all imbrace,

Henry the Fourth.

For heaven to earth, some of vs neuer shall
A second time doe such a curtesie.

Heere they embrace, the Trumpets sound, the King enters with his power, alarme to the Battell: then enter Dowglas, and sir Walter Blunt.

Blunt. What is thy name that in Battel thus thou crossest me?
What honour dost thou seeke vpon my head?

Dow. Know then my name is *Dowglas*,
And I doe haunt thee in the battell thus,
Because some tell me, that thou art a King.

Blunt. They tell thee true.

Dow. The Lord of *Stafford* deare to day hath bought
Thy likenesse, for in stead of thee, King *Harry*
This Sword hath ended him, so shall it thee,
Vnlesse thou yeeld thee as a prisoner.

Blunt. I was not borne to yeeld, thou proud Scot,
And thou shalt find a King that will reuenge
Lord *Stafford*s death.

They fight, Dowglas kils Blunt, then enters Hotspur.

Hot. O *Dowglas*, had it thou fought at *Holmedon* thus,
I neuer had triumpht ouer a Scot.

Dow. Als done, als won, heere breathlesse lies the King.

Hot. Where? *Dow.* Heere.

Hot. This *Dowglas*? No, I know this face full well,
A gallant Knight he was, his name was *Blunt*;
Semblably furnisht like the King himselfe.

Dow. Ah foole, go with thy soule whither it goes,
A borrowed title hast thou bought too deare,
Why didst thou tell me, that thou wert a King?

Hot. The King hath many marching in his Coates.

Dow. Now by my Sword, I will kill all his Coates,
He murder all his Wardrobe piece by piece,
Vntill I meet the King.

Hot. Vp and away.

Our Souldiers stand full fairely for the day,

Alarme, enter Falstaffe solus.

Fals. Though I could scape shot-free at *London*, I feare the
shot heere, heere's no scoring but vpon the pate. Soft, who are
you? *Sir Walter Blunt*, there's honour for you, heere's no vanitie,

The History of

I am as hot as molten Lead, and as heauie too: God keep Lead out of me, I need no more weight then mine owne bowels: I haue led my rag of Muffians where they are peperd: theres not three of my 150. left aliuie, and they are for the townes end, to begge during life. But who comes heere? *Enter the Prince.*

Prince What standst thou idle heere? lend mee thy Sword, Many a Noble man lies starke and stiffe, Vnder the houes of vaunting enemies, Whose deaths are yet vnreueng'd, I prethee lend me thy Sword.

Fal. O *Hal*, I prethee giue me leaue to breathe a while: *Turke Gregorie* neuer did such deeds in armes, as I haue done this day: I haue payd *Percy*, I haue made him sure.

Prince. He is indeed, and liuing to kill thee; I prethee lend me thy Sword.

Fal. Nay before God *Hal*, if *Percy* be aliuie, thou getst not my sword, but take my pistoll if thou wilt.

Prince Giue it me: what? is it in the case?

Fals. I *Hal*, tis hot, theres that will sacke a Citie.

The Prince drawes it out, and findes it a bottell of Sacke.

Prince What, is it a timeto iest and dally now?

He throwes the Bottell at him.

Exit.

Fal. If *Percy* be aliuie, Ile pierce him, if he do come in my way, so: if he do not, if I come in his willingly, let him make a Carbo-nado of me. I like not such grinning honour as *sir Walter* hath: giue me life, which if I can saue, so: if not, honour comes vnlookt for, and theres an end.

Alarme, excursions, enter the King, the Prince, Lord Iohn of Lancaster, and Earle of Westmerland.

King I prethee *Harry* withdraw thy selfe, thou bleedest too much; *Lord Iohn of Lancaster*, goe you with him.

P. Iohn Not I, my Lord, vnlesse I did bleed too.

Prin. I beseech your Maiestie make vp, Lest your retirement doe amaze your friends.

Ki. I will do so; my L. of *Westmerland*, leade him to his Tent.

West. Come, my Lord, Ile leade you to your Tent.

Prince Leade me my Lord, I doe not need your helpe; And God forbid a shallow scratch should driue

Henry the Fourth.

The prince of *Wales* from such a field as this,
Where staine Nobilitie lies troden on,
And Rebels Armes triumph in massacres.

John We breathe too long, come coosen *Westmerland*,
Our duty this way lies: For Gods sake come.

Prin. By God, thou hast deceiu'd me *Lancaster*,
I did not thinke thee Lord of such a spirit;
Before I lou'd thee as a brother *John*,
But now I doe respect thee as my soule.

King I saw him hold Lord *Percy* at the poynt,
With lustier maintenance then I did looke for
Of such an vngrowne Warriour.

Prin. O, this Boy lends mettall to vs all. *Exit.*

Dowg. Another King, they grow like Hydras heads,
I am the *Dowglas* fatall to all those
That weare those colours on them. What art thou
That counterfeist the person of a King?

Ki. The King himselfe, who *Dowglas* grieues at heart,
So many of his shadowes thou hast met,
And not the very King: I haue two Boyes,
Sceke *Percy* and thy selfe, about the Field;
But seeing thou fall'st on me so luckily,
I will assay thee, and defend thy selfe.

Dowg. I feare thou art another Counterfeit;
And yet in faith thou bear'st thee like a King:
But mine I am sure thou art, who ere thou be;
And thus I winne thee,

They fight, the King being in danger, enter Prince of Wales.

Prince. Hold vp thy head vile Scot, or thou art like
Neuer to hold it vp againe, the spirits
Of valiant *Sherly*, *Stafford*, *Blunt*, are in my Armes,
It is the Prince of *Wales* that threatens thee,
Who neuer promiseth, but he meanes to pay.

They fight, Dowglas flieth.

Cheerely my Lord, how fares your Grace?
Sir Nicholas Gamsay hath for succour sent,
And so hath *Clifton*: Ile to *Clifton* strait.

King. Stay, and breathe a while,

The Historie of

Thou hast redeemed thy lost opinion,
And shewd thou makest some tender of my life
In this faire rescue thou hast brought to me.

Prince. O God, they did me too much iniurie,
That euer said, I hearkned to your death:
If it were so, I might haue let alone
The insulting hand of *Dowglas* ouer you,
Which would haue beene as speedy in your end,
As all the poysonous potions in the world,
And sau'd the trecherous labour of your Sonne.

Kin. Make vp to *Clifton*, Ile to *S. Nicholas Gamsey.*

Exit.

Enter Hotspur.

Hot. If I mistake not, thou art *Harry Monmouth?*

Prince. Thou speakest, as if I would deny my name.

Hot. My name is *Harry Percy.*

Prince. Why then I see a very valiant Rebelle of that name.
I am the *Prince of Wales*; and thinke not *Percy*,
To share with me in glory any more:

Two Starres keepe not their motion in one Sphere,
Nor can one *England* brooke a double raigne,
Of *Harry Percy*, and the *Prince of Wales*.

Hot. Now shall it *Harry?* forthe houre is come,
To end the one of vs; and would to God,
Thy name in Armes, were now as great as mine.

Prince. Ile make it greater, ere I part from thee,
And all thy budding Honours on thy Crest
Ile crop, to make a Garland for my head.

Hot. I can no longer brooke thy vanities.

They fight. *Enter Falstaffe.*

Fals. Well said *Hal*, to it *Hal*. Nay, you shall finde no Boyes
play heere, I can tell you.

*Enter Dowglas, he fights with Falstaffe, he fals downe as
if he were dead, the Prince killeth Percy.*

Hot. Oh *Harry*, thou hast robd me of my youth,
I better brooke the losse of brittle life,
Then those proud Titles thou hast won of me,
They wound my thoughts worse, then the sword my flesh:

But

Henry the Fourth.

But thought's the slave of life, and life times fool,
And Time that takes survey of all the world,
Must have a stop. O, I could prophesie,
But that the Earth, and cold hand of Death
Lies on my tongue : no *Percy*, thou art dust,
And food for

Prince. For Worms, brave *Percy*. Fare thee well, great heart,
Ill weav'd Ambition, how much art thou shrunke?
When that this body did containe a spirit,
A Kingdome for it, was too small a bound,
But now two paces of the vilest earth,
Is roome enough : this earth that beares the dead,
Beares not alive so stout a Gentleman.
If thou wert sensible of cursesie,
I should not make so great a shew of zeale :
But let my fauours hide thy mangled face;
And euen in thy behalfe, Ile thanke my selfe
For doing these faire rites of tendernesse,
Adieu, and take thy praise with thee to heauen,
Thy ignomy sleepe with thee in the graue,
But not remembred in thy Epitaph.

He spitteth Falstaffe on the ground.

What, old acquaintance, could not all this flesh
Keepe in a little life? poore *Iacke* farewell :
I could haue better spar'd a better man :
O, I should haue a heauy misse of thee,
If I were much in loue with vanitie ;
Death hath not strooke so faire a Deere to day,
Though many dearer in this bloody fray,
Imboweld will I see thee by and by,
Till then, in blood by noble *Percy* lie.

Falstaffe riseth up.

Fals. Imboweld? if thou imbowell me to day, Ile giue you
leauē to powder me, and eate mee too to morrow. Zloud, t'was
time to counterfeit, or that hot termagant Scot had payd mee
scot and lot too. Counterfeit? I am no counterfeit: to die is to
be a counterfeit, for hee is but the counterfeit of a man, who
hath not the life of a man: but to counterfeit dying, when a man

The Historie of

thereby liueth, is to be no counterfeit, but the true and perfect image of life indeed. The better part of Valour is Discretion; in the which better part, I haue saued my life. Zounds I am afeard of this gunpowder *Percy*, though he be dead: how if hee should counterfeit too, and rise? by my faith I am afraid he would proue the better counterfeit? therefore Ile make him sure; yea, and Ile sweare I slew him. Why may not he rise as well as I? nothing confutes mee but eyes, and no body sees me: therefore sirra, with a new wound in your thigh, come you along with me.

*He takes up Hotspur on his backe. Enter Prince and
John of Lancaster.*

Prin. Come brother *John*, full brauely hast thou flest
Thy mayden Sword.

John But soft, who haue we heere?
Did you not tell me this fat man was dead?

Prin. I did, I saw him dead,
Breathlesse, and bleeding on the ground. Art thou aliue?
Or is it fantasie that playes vpon our eye-sight?
I prethee speake, we will not trust our eyes
Without our eares, thou art not what thou seem'st.

Fals. No that's certaine, I am not a double man: but if I bee
not *Iacke Falstaffe*, then am I a lacke: there is *Percy*, if your Fa-
ther will doe mee any honour, so: if not, let him slay the next
Percy himselve: I looke to be either Earle or Duke, I can assure
you.

Prin. Why *Percy*, I slew my selfe, and saw thee dead.

Fals. Didst thou? Lord, Lord, how the world is giuen to ly-
ing? I graunt you I was downe, and out of breath, and so was
he, but wee rose both at an instant, and fought a long houre by
Shrewsbury clocke, if I may be beleued, so: if not, let them that
should reward Valour, beare the sinne vpon their owne heads.
He take it vpon my death, I gaue him this wound in the thigh,
if the man were aliue, and would deny it, Zounds I would make
him eate a peece of my Sword.

John. This is the strangest tale that euer I heard.

Prin. This is the strangest fellow, brother *John*,
Come bring your luggage nobly on your backe,

For

Henry the Fourth.

For my part, if a lie will doe thee grace,
Ile giulde it with the happiest tearmes I haue.

A retreat is sounded.

Prince The Trumpets sound retreat, the day is ours:
Come Brother, lets to the highest of the Field,
To see what friends are liuing, who are dead. *Exeunt.*

Fals. Ile follow, as they say, for reward; He that rewardes me,
God reward him. If I do grow great, Ile grow lesse: for Ile purge,
and leaue Sacke, and liue cleanly, as a Nobleman should doe.

Exit.

*The Trumpets sound, enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord
John of Lancaster, Earle of Westmerland, with
Worcester and Vernon prisoners.*

King Thus euer did Rebellion finde rebuke,
Ill spirited *Worcester*, did not we send grace,
Pardon and tearmes of Loue to all of you?
And wouldst thou turne our offers contrary,
Misuse the tenor of thy kinsmans trust?
Three Knights vpon our party slaine to day,
A noble Earle, and many a creature else,
Had beene aliue this houre,
If like a Christian thou hadst truly borne
Betwixt our Armies true intelligence.

Wor. What I haue done, my safetie vrg'd me to,
And I embrace this fortune patiently,
Since not to be auoyded, it falls on mee.

King Beare *Worcester* to the death, and *Vernon* too:
Other Offenders we will pause vpon.
How goes the Field?

Prince The noble Scot Lord *Dowglas*, when he saw
The fortune of the day turn'd quite from him,
The noble *Percy* slaine, and all his men,
Vpon the foot of feare, fled with the rest:
And falling from a hill, he was so bruizd,
That the pursuers tooke him. At my Tent,
The *Dowglas* is, and I beseech your Grace,
I may dispose of him.

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King. With all my heart.

Prince. Then brother *John of Lancaster,*

To you this honourable bountie shall belong,

Go to the *Douglas* and deliuer him

Vp to his pleasure ransomlesse and free.

His valour shewne vpon our Crests to day,

Hath taught vs how to cherish such high deedes,

Euen in the bosome of our aduersaries.

King. Then this remaines, that we diuide our Power,

You Sonne *John*, and my coosen *Westmerland*,

Towards *Yorke* shall bend you with your deereft speed;

To meete *Northumberland* and the Prelate *Scroope*,

Who (as we heare) are busily in armes:

My selfe and you, Sonne *Harry*, will towards *Wales*,

To fight with *Glendower*, and the Earle of *March*.

Rebelliou in this Land shall loose his way,

Meeting the checke of such another day:

And since this businelle so faire is done,

Let vs not leaue till all our owne be wonne.

F I N I S.





